

RECREATION

— May 1944 —



•
Day Camping
1943

Pantomime Is Easy
By Grace Marie Stanistreet

Those Young Folks of Ours!

Some Community and Family Nights

More About Last Summer's Playgrounds

Recreation for Teen-Agers in San Francisco

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600 Billion!

SIX HUNDRED BILLION unthinkable? Yes!

And yet Hitler has cost the world more than half a trillion dollars, more than six million men's lives.

Under compulsion the people of the world, common and uncommon, spend six hundred billion dollars for destruction.

When all this destruction is ended, then there will be need such as never before to make this world attractive to live in, to make our homes rich in opportunities for real family life, to provide comradeship in the neighborhood, to have a full measure of joy in our churches, to make our cities truly beautiful.

There are memories of horror to be forgotten, there are long nights of anxiety, there are days of waiting not longer to be remembered.

Only by making daily life rich and deep and full of a note of victory can old memories be driven out and the eyes turned toward the light of a new day and the will to live and live victoriously be made strong for all — no matter what each man may have seen, what each man may have heard, what each man may have been through.

Of course world anarchy must be ended, a basis for righting wrongs established. But that is not enough, even though it be first.

Surely after victory we — the people of the earth — must find ways of happiness, ways of growth, ways of building whatever gives permanent and enduring satisfaction in the lives of men to make up to the generation that has fought, to the generation of youth, to the generation that is coming into a partially destroyed world, for all of this devastation and wastage.

Leadership had to be given to destruction. Now are we not equally willing to give a little leadership to rebuilding the souls of men, to deepening and trying to make glorious the daily lives of people.

We all are still like children. We want to be happy and strong. It does not take too much to make us happy.

What matters is for us to care — really care about making a world that is fairly warm and comfortable to be lived in, a world of beauty and music and joy.

If we really care — it is not a matter of paying out such billions of dollars as we have paid for destruction, though some money is required. It is a matter of providing a modest amount of leadership right down in the neighborhood to give the people of our country, particularly the people in our corner of it, a chance to do for themselves easily and naturally the things they themselves most want to do.

This making available of leadership for living — community by community—cannot be neglected if we want as quickly as may be to remove the spiritual and mental scars this war will have left.

Recreation land and buildings and facilities are important. But they are not first. In one state alone after the first world war four hundred recreation buildings were built as so-called "living" war memorials. But generally no provision was made for leadership and in five years many of the centers were very little used. Right now cities are planning on spending hundreds of millions of dollars in the postwar period for recreation lands, buildings and facilities.

There must be equally outstanding provision for leadership or to that extent the expenditures will be ineffective.

Better leadership without buildings than buildings without leadership.

There is a new culture waiting to come in America. There is beauty waiting to be seen. There is music waiting to be sung and heard. There is comradeship that leaves rich memories. There are creeks to be skated, rivers to be swum, lakes to be sailed, games and sports to be enjoyed, rich and satisfying living to be discovered if only a very small fraction of what we have been forced to spend for destruction can be set aside for leadership in recreation for bringing joy and strength to us all.

Destruction has been on an unprecedented scale.

May it not be well that building of satisfactory daily living should following this destruction also be on a scale not known before.

Mere existence in a bleak world is no longer enough for any of us.

HOWARD BRAUCHER

MAY 1944

More About Last Summer's Playgrounds

INCREASINGLY cities are adopting themes for their summer playground programs around which activities along many lines are built. This is proving in many communities a successful method of sustaining the interest of the children in the activities of the playgrounds throughout the summer.

Summer Playground Themes

Thirteen playgrounds of Waterloo, Iowa, carried out the United Nations theme which was adopted in the city last summer. During the playground staff training institute held the week before the playgrounds opened, playground directors and play leaders helped plan the program for the summer.

After the United Nations theme was chosen, nine weekly titles were selected which related to this theme. Throughout the summer there was a variety of activities, including games and sports, crafts, singing, storytelling, dramatics, nature games, movies, war stamp sales and many other activities which were related in one way or another to this general plan.

The season opened with **Good Neighbor Week**, June 14-19, which served as a

It was impossible to publish in the April issue of **RECREATION**, the special playground issue, all of the material which you sent us about last summer's playgrounds. So here is additional information regarding activities and administration which we hope will be helpful to you in planning your program.

"get acquainted" time with movies and flag displays part of the program. Sports and Games Week, June 21-26, included baseball games, athletic tests and tournaments of all kinds.

For **Music and Dance Week**, June 28-July 3, there were musical programs, folk dances,

and singing. To give added meaning to **Patriotism Week**, July 5-9, the flags of the United Nations were flown with the American flag on all thirteen playgrounds. War stamp sales were also part of the week's activities.

Dramatics Week, July 12-17, featured storytelling, talent night, and many plays and skits. During **Hobby Week**, July 19-24, pet shows, model aircraft exhibits, and hobby shows were held on each playground. Nature treasure hunts, flower arrangement contests, campfires, nature hikes, and leaf identification contests were some of the activities carried out for the **Nature Week** program, July 26-31.

With the coming of **Crafts Week**, August 1-7, the playgrounds held exhibits of articles made of leather, cork, clay, reeds, paper, and other materials. The final week, August 9-14, was the occasion of neighborhood fun programs, picnics, and tours.

The playground children of Chester, Pa., gave expression to their good will toward neighbors in other lands through their last summer's pageant, "Americans All."



Types of Design

Halloween	Formal design
Christmas	Geometric design
Patriotic	Ships
Animal	Airplanes
Floral	Mother Goose rhymes
Sports	Aquatic
Valentine	Cathedral windows

It was also suggested that in addition to other lanterns each playground make lanterns which spell out the name of the playground and that each have a large brilliantly lighted float at least 2' x 3'. These floats were constructed in such a way that they would float on Dreamland Lake, where with their lights and the lights arranged around the bank of the lake, a beautiful effect was secured.

Music

One of the outstanding features of the 1943 playground program in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, was the playground band of 50 pieces and chorus of 150 voices. These groups were trained by two regular supervisors of music

There was an attendance of over 100,000 people at the concerts held last summer in Sigmund Stern Grove, San Francisco

in the public schools who served on the summer playground staff.

In San Francisco's Sigmund Stern Grove is a beautiful glade about a hundred feet below the street level, sheltered by a thick stand of eucalyptus trees. This natural amphitheater was the scene last summer of a series of fourteen concerts presented by the Sigmund Stern Grove Music Festival Committee under the sponsorship of the San Francisco Recreation Commission. More than 100,000 people attended these concerts. The concert on September 12th, the Ballet Matinee, featured the dance and music groups of the Commission.

A Child Checking Service

One of the wartime activities of the Cleveland, Ohio, Division of Recreation was the child checking station set up last spring as the city's contribution to the Victory Youth Activities Week. This miniature playground, equipped with a tent, a sand pile, table crafts, a slide, a teeter-totter, swings and toy

(Continued on page 103)



Community and Family Nights

COMMUNITY AND FAMILY NIGHTS are assuming greater importance in the recreation program than ever before as communities are coming to realize that one of the causes of juvenile delinquency is lack of adequate family life and the absence of the feeling of "belonging" which is so essential to the child and the adolescent.

Marquette, Michigan, is one of the cities which is doing something about it through the encouragement, under the auspices of the Department of Parks and Recreation, of a monthly Family Night when the family will stay together and enjoy recreation activities. Places of amusement and refreshment in the city are cooperating to the extent of admitting only family groups to their establishment, and some owners of these places are going as far as to close their doors to go home to their own families! Public and private organizations are postponing meetings scheduled on the specified nights in order to cooperate.

It is impossible to measure the results of such a project, but favorable comments indicate that in most cases it is a huge success. It is interesting to learn of the variety of activities which different families carry on. Some go to the movies; others go skating or skiing; some stay home and play games; and some "just read." A few actually have parties, with refreshments and presents as well. Most of the families end their evening with some kind of refreshments which make the occasion a truly festive one.

The Department of Parks and Recreation has issued a list of suggested games and activities for families to use in planning their nights. These suggestions reach the public through the daily paper which is doing much to encourage the project.

The results of Family Night may not be immediate, but ultimately they are certain to prove satisfactory.

Community Nights in Long Beach

"Community Varieties," a successful family night entertainment, was staged last November by the Recreation Commission of Long Beach, California, at the Polytechnic High School Auditorium in that city. This was not the first experience of the Recreation Commission in the field of community stage programs, although it was the first to include the co-sponsorship of another group.

Marquette, Michigan, is sponsoring a series of family nights to encourage families of the city to spend at least one designated night together each month, getting acquainted and enjoying recreation activities. "This does not mean that the family has to stay at home as long as they stay together," says Jean Ohman, assistant recreation director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, who describes the project for us.

The Long Beach, California, Recreation Commission is presenting "Community Varieties" as its community night feature, and local talent is making its contribution to the program.

In planning, publicizing, and presenting this program the Commission had the assistance of the Long Beach Junior Chamber of Commerce as co-sponsors.

The program included a violin choir from the Woman's Symphony Orchestra of Long Beach, a boys' glee club from Jordan High School, a fifteen-piece swing band made up of high school boys who play like professionals, a pianist of national reputation who is at present wearing a Coast Guard uniform, singing-sisters numbers, and a dance and baton act. The audience was led in a short session of community singing. Admission was free. The audience showed appreciation of the program by generous applause through which they registered a very definite affirmative vote on the question of making the entertainment a regular event on a monthly basis. The next program was set for a date in January, with December omitted because of the number of long-established holiday entertainment features scheduled.

An important factor in the success of the program was the close cooperation of school and municipal personnel with the co-sponsoring group—cooperation made possible and practicable by the coordinated recreation plan in operation in Long Beach.

The organization set up to carry out the community varieties idea included an executive committee and subcommittees for program, publicity, and stage management. Chairmen of the subcommittees served on the executive committee, and appointments were divided between the Recreation

Commission staff and the Junior Chamber of Commerce members.

This type of program has been featured monthly at three community clubhouses; and the weekly program on Monday nights at the Municipal Auditorium has been a popular public entertainment sponsored by the Recreation Commission for fifteen years. The programs are divided into three parts. First, a half hour of community singing led by volunteer directors and utilizing illustrated projection slides; second, a stage program which varies from week to week with schools, dance and dramatic groups and musical organizations supplying the talent; finally, about two hours of old-time square dancing. The square dancing is greatly enjoyed by middle-aged and elderly residents.

All the community night programs have been well attended, but the Monday night programs at the Municipal Auditorium hold the local record, averaging 2,500 a week year after year.

Briefly, the purpose which the Recreation Commission has in mind in sponsoring community programs is twofold. There is, of course, the fundamental desire to provide enjoyable entertainment of a nature which can be attended by entire family groups and which draws the residents of the several sections of the city closer together. Then there is the objective of affording amateur local talent an opportunity to appear before audiences and thus have the satisfaction of developing skills and talents. A third reason which might be stated because that is the way it works out in practice is the provision of a ready means for general co-operation between many civic and private groups of the city who enjoy making a contribution to the public recreation of the community.

Fun Nights in Houston

Even babies are welcome at Fun Night in Houston's North Side Community, for a nursery keeps them safe and comfortable for the evening while other members of the family are busy playing games, singing, dancing and attending craft classes.

Fun Night in the North Side Community is sponsored by a Community Advisory Committee, assisted by representatives from parent-teacher associations, churches and schools of the community, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, the Parks and

Another city which is promoting family and community nights is Houston, Texas. Here an enterprising group of people in North Side Community, where there are few recreation centers, arranged to open John Marshall Junior High School every Friday night from 7:00 to 9:00.

Every resident of the section who feels the urge to enjoy an evening of fun and good fellowship is invited to attend and to take a hand in planning the program.

Recreation Department, Y.W.C.A., Y.M.C.A., Council of Social Agencies, and the Crime Prevention Bureau.

"Fun Night belongs to you," reads the invitation. "For everyone except the babies there will be something different each week in movies, amateur talent, talks, music, and whatever you like. This is *your* community fun night. Help make it yours by joining in the fun on Fridays and by becoming a member of the advisory council to plan the program."

Here is a typical program for the entire family:

For Children

Games for Boys (7:00-8:00). Lots of fun and all sorts of activities under good leadership.

Games for Girls (7:00-8:00). A leader who knows how will keep the fun going.

A Story Hour (8:00-9:00). A storyteller to bring you both old and new favorites.

Library. Open all evening if you want to read or just browse.

For Adults

The Program Hour (8:00-9:00). Movies, talks on subjects of interest, community singing can be arranged depending upon interest of the group. If you have ideas or requests, talk to the committee.

Table Games (7:00-9:00). Checkers, chess, cards, and similar games.

Homemaking Class. A chance to get expert instruction and interesting discussions concerning problems of the home—victory menus, budgets in wartime, child care.

Citizenship Class (7:00-9:00). For those who want to take out citizenship papers—sympathetic and skilled teachers to prepare persons for the examinations and to answer all sorts of questions involved in becoming a citizen of the United States.

For "Teen-Agers"

Social Games for all Teen-Agers (7:00-8:00). A party every time for all who want to join in some really good fun.

Fun Dancing (8:00-9:00). Social dancing, folk dancing or instructions in dancing (if that's what you like). A 10 cent charge per evening to pay for music.

Art for Fun (7:00-8:00). For beginners and open to all who want to play at painting, sketching, block printing.

Music for Fun (7:00-8:00). For beginners — open to all — singing songs and getting acquainted with new and old music.

More Art (8:00-9:00). For



Armed with picnic basket and game equipment, this Long Beach, California, family is headed for the recreation area for an evening of fun

those who have had some experience but want more in sketching, painting, block printing.

More Music (8:00-9:00). Choral singing, string band, or just more good songs, as you wish.

Crafts and Handwork (7:00-9:00). All kinds of things to do with your hands—leather work, wood work, Indian crafts—you name it. Charge for cost of materials only.

Puppets (7:00-9:00). Making and operating those little actors of the stage. The groups can put on plays or just play—as they wish.

Boys' Basketball and Volley Ball (7:00-8:00). A good time for any boy interested in these sports. A 25 cent charge for three months.

Indianapolis Initiates "Family Nites"

In Indianapolis, "Family Nites" featured novelty-relays and games in which the whole family could take part—volley ball, softball, and kickball for father and son, or mother and daughter, community sings, amateur hours (child and adult),

and basket suppers. Adults were encouraged by the Park Department

to use the lighted playgrounds, which were open until 11:00 P. M., and to organize teams in games of various kinds.

Twilight Programs in a West Coast City

In an effort to increase neighborhood recreation programs for family groups, special twilight programs were arranged last summer at a number of the play areas maintained by a California city. Residents of each district were brought into the organization to work with area directors in planning activities and providing leadership. Picnic suppers, followed by a program of sports and games, were regular features of these get-togethers. Where buildings were available for the purpose, indoor stage programs and socials sometimes followed the outdoor program.

Good Neighbors All

By VIRGINIA FOX

Director

Lincoln Park Community Center
Denver, Colorado

THE CHILDREN of the Lincoln Park Community Center, Denver, Colorado, paid a nine week "visit" to the countries of their Latin American neighbors last summer.

This imaginary journey was a result of the Center's program theme—a project entitled, "Our Good Neighbors South of the Border." The last week of the adventure was spent in making plans for the big fiesta in which all age groups took part.

The trip, an airplane ride to South America, began on June 14th and continued every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning for nine weeks. Several mornings were spent seeing Mexico, Cuba, Peru, Chile, Argentina, and Brazil. Activities centered around those programs which would furnish background to help children understand the people of Latin America; storytelling, group singing, group games, music appreciation, and dancing were all part of their "lessons."

Mexico the First Stop

The first stop made on the trip was Mexico, and the background of that country was given through the telling of stories of the lives, homes, and friends of Mexican children. History was furnished by legends of the Aztec Indians. Spanish speaking children in the group danced the El Jarabe and Las Chiapanecas for the other children who, in turn, learned these dances themselves. In the assembly period everyone learned Spanish and Mexican songs.

Divided into small groups, the six and seven year old children made pottery bowls, drew Mexican flags, and strung macaroni necklaces combining the Mexican colors. The eight and nine year olds worked out a large mural on brown paper, while the ten and twelve year olds modeled a Mexican market place out of colored plasticene. And when the journey was over, the children prepared a Mexican luncheon for parents and friends. Under the supervision of one of the Mexican staff workers they made tortillas, Spanish rice, and agus de pina. Mexican hats of construction paper were

made for place cards at the tables.

Then on to Other Lands

The trip continued to Cuba where the group was given the background from which they chose to work out craft projects. One of the neighborhood girls exhibited authentic Cuban musical instruments and danced the conga and rumba for the group. Some

of the children dramatized the story, "Tito, the Pig of Guatamala," while others made and learned to play Cuban instruments such as tom-toms constructed from cocoa and cheese boxes, and tin cans, maracas made from gourds, and marimbas built from wood.

In Peru, the children learned about weaving, making looms first on cardboard and later on wooden boxes. In Chile they were told about Inca ceremonials and worked out one. They flew to Argentina and engaged in similar activities there.

When the tourists reached Brazil, they were told interesting legends of the people who had lived in that country. Older boys made jungle arrows and worked out a dance through the use of mimetics, while the girls in this age group also created a dance using the same medium as the boys. Their tom-toms were used as accompaniment for the dance which was called the "Dance of the Tortillas." A younger group selected and dramatized a jungle story using the first puppets they had created.

Finally, the Fiesta!

When the journey was over, final preparations were made the last week for the fiesta. The use of the outdoor theater for the event was requested and granted. The manager of the parks department called upon his staff to provide whatever was needed. A crew of electricians set up facilities for lighting and the ground crew prepared the outdoor theater.

Adult groups assisted with the costuming.

(Continued on page 105)

Day Camping

1943



Gedde Harmon

PROBLEMS OF TRANSPORTATION, personnel, and food supplies, along with other difficulties too numerous to mention, made day camping a hazardous undertaking last summer. Nevertheless, a number of successful ventures were reported.

In the District of Columbia

The summer of 1943 constituted a direct challenge to the Nation's Capital. It was the hottest summer in seventy years. The city, with a wartime increment of servicemen and war workers, had topped normal population by nearly a quarter of a million. The demands for increased facilities and services for young people were greater than ever.

The responsibilities involved extended to practically every department of the District government, and a large share had descended upon the shoulders of the Recreation Board. An analysis of conditions revealed that because of lack of transportation, shortage of food, and personnel difficulties, many previously active camps operated by public and private agencies had failed to open. The camp problem was obviously on the Board's doorstep.

There were ways of alleviating conditions—excellent ways, already well organized and operating smoothly, the Recreation Board decided. There were teen age dances on open tennis courts, outdoor sports, an active aquatic program, picnics, concerts, and special events, all far-reaching and effective, but there was, undoubtedly, a contribution pre-eminently reserved for the day camp.

Day camps were not brand new projects in Washington, but neither their number nor program was equal to the present needs. There must be more diversification of activities. The press and the community must be solidly behind them. The value of informative stories and pictures in the local press became evident when one early release increased the enrollment by three hundred in a single morning. Eventually the requests for placement exceeded greatly

the capacity of the camps which accommodated a final total of 936.

The Training Program. The support of the community was the primary objective to which the camp staff addressed itself. The camp training program started one month in advance of the camps themselves with the dual purpose of orienting the supervisors who made up the paid and volunteer camp staff in the fine art of camping successfully, and of familiarizing the general public with the prospective camp project. As a means of accomplishing the latter, the staff inaugurated a series of personal appearances before the civic organizations, schools, and churches of the community, designed through personal contacts to transmit the message of the camps-to-be to the surrounding neighborhoods.

The staff training meetings took on the flavor of the project itself. In the first meeting, which continued throughout an entire Saturday, enthusiastic leaders journeyed from camp site to camp site, exploring the facilities, wading in the brooks, and conducting their deliberations while seated on a convenient log. At a second meeting at the brisk hour of 7:00 A. M., they prepared an *alfresco* breakfast over tin can ovens, which ultimately served as the favorite means of cooking throughout the summer. They were easily procurable, easily transportable, and unbelievably successful. Upon the surfaces of these improvised ovens the young campers prepared ambitious menus—bacon, eggs cooked neatly in bread baskets, coffee, fried

apples. The story is told that on the occasion of a tour of inspection by the Recreation Board, the President of the Board first viewed the toothsome and pungent contents of a kettle simmering over a campfire, observed the potatoes baked in clay, Hawaiian style,

Last summer, in spite of tremendous difficulties, a very successful program of day camping was conducted in the District of Columbia. The story of the camps is told by Cora Wells Thorpe, a member of the administrative staff of the District of Columbia Recreation Department.

the fried apples spluttering on the tin ovens, the hot ginger-bread, and accepted the camp's invitation to dinner forthwith!

Opening Day Arrives. Thus carefully planned and supervised, the camps opened on June 28 with a bumper registration. Three were conducted solely by the Recreation Department, two in cooperation with the Georgetown Neighborhood Council. Camp sites, selected with due regard to woods, streams, pools, general accessibility to transportation, a plentiful supply of good drinking water, and open spaces for archery, pageantry and games, were further provided by the National Capital Parks with fireplaces, temporary sanitation, and water spigots. The locality was suggested in the respective names selected: Camp Tah-Ko-Ma, Oxon Run, Foundry Branch, Fort Dupont, and Rock Creek Parkway. Each was to run four two-week periods with the exception of Camp Rock Creek Parkway, which continued for nine weeks. An extra dividend was paid in the form of an additional week at the close of the season, designated as "Camp Round-Up," to which only outstanding campers were bidden. As an incentive to excellent behavior and camp morale it was unsurpassed, including as it did, the coveted privilege of a night spent in the cool of the woods.

"You should have seen them!" exclaimed an enthusiastic camp supervisor, "gathered about a campfire, the woods vocal with their old favorite:

'Oh, we're the kids from Camp (camp name)
And we know how to sing,
And if we do not have a song,
We'll sing most anything.
It doesn't have to have a tune
It may not even rhyme,
We'll sing it for you anywhere,
We'll sing it any time.'

"And how they studied the heaven's constellations, as wrapped in their serviceable blankets they stretched out under the stars on their Klondyke beds."

"A happy thought," observed another leader, "in keeping camp unity in the program was the idea of having a theme for each two-week period. They were Indians, Cowboys, and Pirates during the summer. A theme gives a camper something to hang to; his games, songs, dances, and crafts take on a fuller meaning, even romance. To make a tin lantern is fun; to make a pirate lantern is thrilling.

"And, too, there was the healthy rivalry induced still further by subdividing the camps. In Tah-

Ko-Ma, for the two weeks, the children were Cowboys, some boys were "Rattlesnakes," living on White-Oak Ranch; other boys were Coyotes on Diamond-C Ranch, and the younger girls, Prairie Dogs, on Rocking Chair Ranch. Each ranch had definite boundaries, a password, and other secrets which made a greater group loyalty.

Nor was there the old bugaboo of camp "clean-ups"; intense ranch loyalty ran too high for that, each group wanting its ranch to look the best. Nor did group loyalty outweigh camp loyalty. Each unit assembled for the morning's flag raising, shared a common ritual before dispersing to pursue its busy schedule until the close of the afternoon became the signal for a final hail and farewell. Seemingly independent, their days were in reality closely coordinated. While one unit cooked one day, another cleaned up and made the camp shipshape. The care of equipment fell to a third; the responsibility of making the fires devolved upon a fourth.

No phase of campcraft intrigued the young campers more than the primitive spell of fire-making. There were the tepee fires, which burn fastest; the council fire, the slowest and longest; the star fire with its big logs ready to be pushed into place, as they are ignited by the small tepees.

And then there were such imperative duties as the protection against accident, the care of the water and Lyster bags, the protection of food, the remedies for poison ivy, the vast accumulation of firewood, the disposal of waste, the program for rainy days which included trips to the Natural History Museum and the Zoo, the keeping of the log. Duties, all of them, which had the charm of novelty and were integrated into a daily schedule which started with a morning swim followed by camp songs, and included an active craft program occupying the intervening hours until the midday meal.

The allure of crafts was apparently enhanced by their variety. They were the whittling of wooden cooking utensils, bowls, spoons, and knives, and the gathering and sorting of firewood. There were also burlap sewing, finger painting, puppetry, clay modeling, mounting of butterflies, construction of crude band instruments, block printing, knot-tying and basketry. Such were a few of the absorbing activities engaging the young campers until the close of the camp day when in single file—an impressive procession—they marched solemnly homeward—eager for the return of another day.

Some Questions Are Answered. "What are some

of the lessons derived from the summer's experiences?" the supervisor was asked.

"Of course we should have more leaders," was the prompt reply. "We had only one to perhaps sixteen children. One to eight would be nearer the ideal proportion. Another year we will systematically canvass colleges, churches, community organizations, for personnel. High school vocational advisers and Scout leaders will be approached this winter with the request that they watch for dependable young people with ability to teach, vigorous personalities, outdoor experience, and craft skills.

"And then, one always needs more equipment—big and small. Scissors and needles, shovels and saws, green wood for crafts, boxes with locks for equipment, and wood logs for proper length, where the camper is too small to chop them.

"The dust raised by the children is always a problem, too." (Washington had experienced its driest season in ninety years.)

"Has irregularity of attendance been a problem?" she was asked.

"Not to any appreciable extent," was the reply. "Having far more applications than we could accommodate, every child realized that if he were irregular in attendance he would forfeit his place." Day camp experience has shown that average camp attendance is 50 per cent. Our camps had an average daily attendance of 76 per cent.

"And the effect on our juvenile delinquency problem?" we pursued. "Assuredly," she smiled, "therein lies the day camps' outstanding contribution to the community. Even the youthful marauders, gathered enviously just beyond our camp frontiers with no good purpose in mind, when invited to join us became some of our best campers. The problem child, too, disappeared long before the end of the two weeks. Those who whined the first few days

were soon busily engaged in some craft; those who were 'the cow's tail' at first, were soon abreast of the group; those who were overenthusiastic learned to await their turn, knowing it would come the sooner because of self-control."

The supervisor paused and then concluded, "Children have to learn to love camping. They have to be taught. Today we are just developing a course of child education in the out of doors. It will be reflected in the health, the morale, the good citizenship of the juvenile population of the Nation's Capital in mounting proportions as the years go by. Next year we shall prepare for double the enrollment."

Decatur Goes Camping

Last summer the Department of Public Recreation of Decatur, Illinois, conducted a day camp program in cooperation with the State Park Department and with the sponsorship of the Lions Club of the city. The site of the camp was the Spitler Woods State Park, approximately eight miles from Decatur, where eighty acres of virgin timberland provided natural wooded trails and opportunities for out-of-door activities such as:

Nature lore	Ceremonies
Indian lore	Hiking
Signaling	Tracking and trailing
Exploration	Safety
Music	Nature craft
Pioneer lore	Cooking
Camp craft	Blazing
Use of fire	Council fire
Rituals	Museum
Collections	Games
Dramatics	Storytelling

The children were scheduled to attend the camp according to age and playground, the age groups being eight to eleven; eleven to fourteen. Before any child was allowed to attend camp, a permit had to be properly executed by both parent and child and filed with the playground or camp director.

The children were picked up at their respective playgrounds in carriers provided by the Recreation Depart-

"To give to children a succession of new experiences with flowers, birds and insects, streams, trees and clean winds, and with hills, plains, and open sky." This, according to the Public Recreation Department of Decatur is the purpose of the day camping program.



Gedge Harmon

ment which left the playgrounds at 9:00 o'clock, returning at approximately 5:00. The children were asked to provide their own lunches carefully marked with their names, and each child was assigned a portion of the meal to be assembled and cooked at camp.

Upon arrival at camp, the children were divided into tribes of from ten to twenty. The time and activity schedule was made as flexible as possible in order not to overprogram or overschedule the camper.

Camp Themes

Two themes were used at camp during the 1943 season. For the first four weeks the program was built around the cowboy, and the woods became a "Dude Ranch." On entering the woods, the campers assembled at the "Corral" for the roundup, and there were nature hikes over the Antelope and Bucktail Trails. The creek winding through the woods was known as the "Wagon Wheel Water Hole," and was a popular spot during trail activities for wading. At mealtime the cowpunchers and cowgirls assembled at the trading post where they were issued noon rations from the "Chuck Wagon" and given instructions in fire building and cooking.

During the second four weeks at camp the Paul Bunyan theme was followed. "Dude Ranch" was converted into "Big Onion Camp." On arrival campers assembled at "Pyramid Forty," followed the Blue Ox and Splinter Cat trails, and had their noon rations at "Old Joe's Shanty."

The camp program was so arranged that the camper, through a natural continuity of activities, became familiar with cowboy and Paul Bunyan lore. The program of activities included nature lore, signaling, lashing, the making of woodland gadgets, collecting, exploration, "whittlin' brands," storytelling, singing, log rolling, and roping.

A popular feature of the program was the Chumfoo nature quest. Participants were given slips of paper on which were listed the names of at least ten types of vegetation studied while hiking over the trails. Children successful in finding and identifying these specimens became members of the tribe of Chumfoo. An overnight camp at the end of the season for Chumfoos was an added incentive for the campers to learn as much as possible about nature and nature appreciation while at

camp. These overnight camping periods were held on the last four nights of the season.

The Program Schedule

9:30 - 10:00—Roundup at "Corral"

1. Explanation of cowboy theme
2. Learning of cowboy songs
3. "Ride 'Em Cowboy" to determine the camp cowpuncher and camp cowgirl
4. Reigning cowpuncher and cowgirl selected
 - a. Collectors of song sheets
 - b. Color bearer and color guards
 - c. Reader for patriotic poem

10:00 - 10:10—Raising of trading post

Gathering of wood and proper laying of log cabin fire

10:10 - 10:20—Flag Ceremonial

Allegiance—"America"—Reading of patriotic poem—"God Bless America"

10:20 - 10:30—Passing of cups—drinks—washing of hands

Explanation of snoop hike—nibble box

10:30 - 11:45—Snoop hike over the Antelope and Bucktail Trails

1. Division into cowpunchers and cowgirls
2. Woodland games while "snooping" such as
 - a. Curio collector
 - b. Curious shaped animals
 - c. Holding the front
 - d. Spot spy
3. Wading in Wagon Wheel

Water Hole

11:45 - 12:00—Washing of hands—drinks

Explanation of proper cooking procedures with sticks
Singing of grace

12:00 - 12:10—"Come and Git It" at Chuck Wagon

Distribution of food and milk

12:10 - 1:00—Eating of lunch within the Corral

1. Disposal of garbage
2. Disposal of paper
3. Remaining lunch and empty milk bottles returned to Chuck Wagon

1:00 - 2:00—Rest Period

1. Relaxing on "soungans" under a tree
2. Reading
3. Sketching
4. Whittling brands
5. Storytelling
6. Exploration
7. Collecting
8. "Chin Music"
9. Signaling
10. Lashing
11. Woodland gadgets

(1:30 - 2:00)—Roping or Lariat Competition

Horseshoes
Dogie Drivers

2:00 - 3:00—Chumfoo Nature Quest
(Identification of the following):

Meadow Daisy	Hickory Leaf
Locust Leaf	Buck Brush
Violet Leaf	Maple Leaf
Chumfoo Toothpick	Solomon's Seal
Mayapple Leaf	Oak Leaf

3:00 - 3:10—Explanation of the game
—"Dispatch Running" or "Capture the Flag"

3:10 - 3:40—Game—"Dispatch Running" or "Capture the Flag"

3:40 - 4:00—The Last Roundup

1. Camper Cowpuncher and Camper Cowgirl bestow Chumfoo insignia upon Chumfoos

2. Initiation into the Tribe of Chumfoos

3. Informal creative dramatics before respective cowpuncher and cowgirl

4. Hanging of Brands

4:00 - 4:10—Retreat—Proper folding of the Flag

4:10 - 4:25—Group singing while equipment is being packed—circle games

4:25 - 4:30—Singing of Taps and Friendship Circle

4:30 - 5:00—Departure from camp—arrival at playground



Gedde Harmon

In day camping we attempt to give to the city child a taste of the joy of a summer vacation in the country

A City Camp in Long Beach

All the usual and popular camp sites available to residents of Long Beach, California, are located in the mountain area a considerable distance from the city. It was evident last summer that wartime traveling restrictions would decrease opportunities for camping for many people. To meet this situation to some degree, the Recreation Commission improved an area within the city limits and placed in charge an experienced camp leader. Boys from various playgrounds signed up the groups, and each day camp facilities were assigned to one of these groups. There was a program of recreation, but interest was added by scheduling definite instruction in pitching tents, camp cooking, boating, swimming, and nature hikes. Bus transportation was provided from the playground, and a recreation director met the boys at the area and returned with them at the close of the day.

In this project the Recreation Commission had the cooperation of other city departments, and the P.T.A. assisted by donating a fund to help buy meat for the camp stew. The boys brought vegetables from their homes, and each one paid a dime toward the cost of the chocolate milk which was distributed daily.

The Recreation Commission joined with the Y.W.C.A., Girl Scouts, and Camp Fire Girls in promoting and sponsoring a day camp program for girls. Each of the cooperating organizations con-

ducted activities at its own center, the idea being to make the plan city-wide as to promotion but local in relation to the average distance from the homes of the participants.

A clubhouse located on the beach was made the center of the Recreation Commission's activities. This building, known as Belmont Recreation Center, contains a well-equipped craft shop. Handcraft became a popular activity. Rhythms and dramatic classes were organized, and beach activities were interspersed with other features to add variety to the program. The attendance at the centers testified to the success of the plan.

The Walnut Hills Day Camp

Preceding the opening of its Walnut Hills Day Camp, the Public Recreation Commission of Cincinnati held a training school of counselors to give these workers a picture of the decentralized camp and the responsibilities they would have. They practiced making fires with various kinds of wood found in the vicinity and thus learned which were the best. They received instruction in making fireplaces, in crafts of various kinds, and in nature recreation.

The camp opened on August 16th with a group of campers from the basin area—the poorer section of the city. The camp was divided into four units, with a counselor, and not more than six campers in each unit. When the campers arrived at 10:00 o'clock, they immediately began their

(Continued on page 105)

Pantomime Is Easy

By GRACE MARIE STANISTREET

Director, Adelphi Children's Theatre Arts Center
Adelphi College

WE ALL RECOGNIZE pantomime as one of the most practical means for children's plays. With increased adult interest in the ballet, and the universal appeal of such movement and color, the ballet play, like those produced by Junior Programs, has become a very popular form of children's entertainment.

There are many variations of this kind of play, from the ever-useful shadow play to the well-rehearsed pantomime. One method is to have the children playing the story (if they are over ten years of age) think of themselves as puppets, and pantomime the dialogue of a play. This, of course, demands close coordination between the actor and the reader, and more direction from the leader. But it is fun, and it creates more opportunities for participation in that the better readers of the group may be cast to read the parts of the play. It is desirable to have a reader for every character unless an expert who can create voices for each character is available. The readers may be in evidence, or they may be concealed. The writer has used both ways.

One of the most successful productions by this method was a scene from "The Nutcracker of Nuremberg," the story retold by Donald E. Cooke, published by John C. Winston Company, Philadelphia. The scene selected was the one in which the handsome young doctor becomes a nutcracker. This version of the story drops the narrative style at this point and becomes dramatic dialogue.

The Pantomime Method

With a few changes any story will lend itself to the pantomime method. In order to create the illusion of the play it is necessary to unify it in place and time, and, if necessary, divide it into scenes. The story of "The Sleeping Beauty," for

Participation in drama should free a child of self-consciousness. Too frequently the reverse effect is produced and by studied action, memorized lines, and formal performances, the child becomes very self-conscious of his audience or feels a nervous strain in remembering the lines he is to speak.

With the approaching summer camp and playground season, directors are looking about for dramatic materials for rainy day use, for assembly and visitors' day, and for educational purposes. The writer has found, through years of camp experience, a few serviceable ideas for the presentation of the informal, almost "rehearsal-less" play, which she offers here.

instance, could be arranged in the following manner:

SCENE I—The Throne Room

Action: The Christening

SCENE II—The Tower Room

Action: Incident of the Spindle

SCENE III—The Throne Room

Action: The Princess, weeping, rushes in to the assembled court. All are suddenly overcome by sleep.

SCENE IV—The Forest—100 years later

Action: The Prince discovers the castle

SCENE V—The Throne Room

Action: The Awakening

It is better to select a suitable story and arrange

it to fit the needs of the group than to try to fit the group to a play. The story field offers wider selection of material, and opportunity for group creativity and participation, and greater satisfaction in the final production.

Costumes and stage sets may be simple or elaborate. The writer favors the Chinese method of production which depends to a large extent on the use of symbols for scenery and properties, and on the imagination of the audience to interpret them.

One device to explain such simple presentation, and at the same time dignify it, is to use a prelude of spoken dialogue. The following scene was written to precede a pantomime version of "The Golden Cockerel," illustrated and told by Willy and Elaine Pogany, published by Thomas R. Nelson, New York. Because it is obviously a device it may be adapted for any production.

Boy (*Seated on barrel with baby carriage near him. Some children hurry in*): What's your hurry?

CHILDREN: We're going to a play.

BOY: What's a play?

CHILDREN: He doesn't know what a play is!

BOY: Bet you don't either.

CHILDREN: We do, too.

BOY: Well, what is it?

CHILDREN: Well, it's a story.

BOY: A story is just a story. Why don't you say you're going to a story then?

CHILDREN: But it's not just a story. It's real people and a stage. But they aren't real people; they're only pretend people. Oh, yes, they are real people but they're pretending to be people in a story. And they have costumes, and a stage and lights. And an audience. And scenery. (These speeches are divided among the group.)

BOY: Well, what do the people do?

CHILDREN: Act out a story.

BOY: A true story?

CHILDREN: Sometimes it's true, sometimes it's just pretend, make believe. The one we're going to see is just pretend. It's called "The Golden Cockerel."

BOY: Why don't you have it here?

CHILDREN: Here? But there isn't any scenery.

BOY: You said it was all pretend. Why can't you pretend the scenery? I could.

CHILDREN: So could we, but where is the audience?

BOY: There are some people out there, ask them. I'll ask them. Will you be the audience? Sure, they'll be your audience.

CHILDREN: But we haven't actors.

BOY: I could pretend so hard I bet I could be audience and act too.

CHILDREN: But somebody has to know the story.

LADY (*passing by*): Would I do? I know the story of "The Golden Cockerel," and there are some of the actors now on their way to the play. Shall we ask them if they'd play here?

CHILDREN: Yes, you ask them.

BOY: Could I ask them? Are you people really actors? On your way to the play? Look, I can't go there. Could you do it here because I never saw a play, and I can't go to your place because I have to mind the baby. Look, would you do it?

ACTORS: But there isn't any stage.

BOY: If you're good pretenders you don't need any, do you?

ACTORS: That's right, we don't, but how about the audience? Are *they* good pretenders?

BOY: You're all good pretenders, aren't you? Yes, they're good pretenders.

ACTORS (*after consultation*): Sure, we'll do it, but where's our storyteller?

LADY: I know the story.

KING: But Dunya isn't here.

LADY: Oh, I'll be Dunya, too.

BOY: If we're good pretenders could we be in the play?

KING: Of course. The best kind of audience is actor and the best actor is audience. Why not? Now are we all ready? Actors disappear! Audience close your eyes! Wind up your imaginations. When I say go you may open your eyes. Ready, get set, go!

Unity of Audience and Actor

An important factor in the production of simple plays is the unity of audience and actor. As expressed in the foregoing prologue, the good actor must be audience as well, and the audience must always participate in the play for a really successful performance. It is a good idea to make this actively true with young audiences and actors. Closer cooperation may be achieved by representing the audience dramatically as in Stuart Walker's play for children, "Sir David Wears a Crown," or by having some of the actors actually part of the



The gypsy who told and sold the story of the Nutcracker of Nuremberg; the little boy who bought it for a penny, and the Nutcracker himself. Produced by the Adelphi Children's Theatre Arts Center in June 1943 at Adelphi College.

audience as in a prologue devised to preface a pantomime production of "The Nutcracker of Nuremberg." This may be used as an introduction to any story.

Three children are jumping rope. A voice is heard singing in the distance.

"Stories for sale. Stories for sale, who'll buy my tales. Who'll buy my tales?"

BETTY: Who's that selling something down the street?

JANET: Sh! Listen to what she says.

GYPSY: Stories for sale. Who'll buy my tales?

HELEN: Why she's a gypsy. Let's see her. (They run to meet the gypsy, who carries a gay bundle.)

GYPSY: Stories for sale. Stories for sale. Who'll buy my tales?

CHUCK (*a little boy behind the gypsy, out of breath from running*): Lady, lady would you swap one for a marble? I'll let you take your pick.

GYPSY: One for a penny, two for a shell. (Still singing her song.)

CHUCK: But I haven't got a penny. Aw, gee, Lady, lookit, they're swell marbles. Will you wait till I go home and ask my mother? Will you? (She is still walking, he is following.)

GYPSY: Pink ones, blue ones, yellow ones, green ones—

BETTY: What are those things? (pointing to the bundle)

GYPSY (*she stops*): Stories for telling to boys and girls. Lavenders, reds, and purples and blues, adventure, romance, historic and true, thrilling or quiet, old or new. Tales for sale. (She continues her song and walks on.)

JIMMIE (*appears from another direction*): I'll buy one, lady, but I only have a penny. What can you tell me for a penny? I don't want history, and it mustn't be new, for there's nothing like an old tale that's been a favorite, too.

GYPSY: An old tale, sir? (*She stops and opens her bundle.*) I think I have one here to suit the taste of you. And it only costs a penny, a little shiny penny, plus a smile or two. How would this one do?

JIMMIE: Yes, I think that would please me. It's quite a pleasant color. Would you tell it to me now?

This action takes place on the floor of the auditorium, not on the stage. The gypsy enters from the rear of the room, if possible, walking through the audience.

The Storytelling Method

Another method of presenting pantomime is for the storyteller (in costume, if desired) to tell the story of each scene before it happens and use a musical background for the action. In this way time, place, scene and characters can be described and introduced by the storyteller.

Pantomime is the best kind of acting for children

Miss Stanistreet has produced a number of pantomime plays at the Adelphi Children's Theatre Arts Center, among them, *Moth in Ermine* (an unpublished story); *The Piper* (the Browning poem); *The Nutcracker* (based on the well-known story); and *The Golden Cockerel* (version of Elaine and Willy Pogany) which will be produced June 16th at Adelphi College, Garden City, N. Y.

because the action is prompted constantly by the storyteller and the actors learn to listen. When the young actor has to memorize lines and action he becomes stilted, artificial, and nervous. Some leaders may ask, "Then why not use im-

promptu dialogue?" This is fine for exercise but most directors consider it inadequate for a performance for several reasons. When children talk in a play, that is, make up their speeches, they naturally key their voices to reach only those on the stage. Except with much practice they cannot consider the audience and think their lines too. And it is worth mentioning here that when they memorize their speeches, they think only of remembering the words, or of reaching the audience, and consequently fail to think the part. Another reason for avoiding impromptu dialogue in actual performance is that the actors are apt to run away with the story, lose sight of the main points, or to distort characters and scenes.

The author is reminded of a pantomime production of "The Piper" in which the mayor, who was wearing a top hat, lost it on the stage. The director, who was watching, wondered how it would get back to the mayor. The tall hat lay in the middle of the stage. The mayor was too fat and dignified to stoop for the hat, and also he was engaged in an important piece of business. A member of the corporation, extricating himself from the group, moved over to the place where the hat had rolled, picked it up, and with an elaborate bow, returned it to the mayor. The mayor (a twelve year old girl) bowed his thanks and clapped it back on his head, then as an afterthought took it off, rubbed it on his sleeve, and replaced it on his head. This was such a delightful, natural bit of business that it was retained in the next performance. This is an indication of the freedom to act, and of the naturalness that pantomime produces which is not often possible with spoken lines.

The director who appreciates values of dramatic experience for children and knows that the individual receives value from the experience in proportion to the effectiveness of the whole production will make increasing use of pantomime. Children love to act. Pantomime gives them opportunity to do their best acting without strain or fear of forgetting. It provides the director with opportunity to do a good piece of work in a short time, and it furnishes the audience with a very satisfying performance.

Circus Time in Norfolk

THERE NEVER was an amateur circus like the one which brought to a close the 1943 playground season in Norfolk, Virginia. Every one of the 250 children and 100 adults who took part in it, every one of the 2,000 spectators who watched it, will tell you that! Each playground was responsible for contributing an act to the "Grinmore Circus," and children and play leaders worked hard to make animals and costumes. Even the Military Police helped!

Introducing the playground circus favorite, "Angelica," the creation of many busy hands



Some of the spectators were a little awed by the animals, but they loved the circus!

The circus, sponsored by the Bureau of Parks and Recreation, was held on the cement tennis courts at City Park. Two circus rings about 22 feet in diameter were made by using park benches and rope, decorated with red, white, and blue

(Continued on page 110)



What's Happening on the West Coast?

RIDING AN aquaplane behind a speeding boat is fun. Keeping one's balance as the tricky board

bounces over the waves is exciting, but the time usually comes when a sudden turn or large wave tosses all but the most expert. The boat goes on and the swimmer is left adrift.

Wives of servicemen, like the aquaplaner, are following the boat of war, happy as long as they are with their husbands, but knowing always that some day a huge wave will carry the boat and G.I. Joe ahead, leaving them to face life alone. Hundreds of thousands of women from all walks of life, from farms, factories and Junior Leagues, are still leaving home ties behind and are swarming into Army towns.

On the West Coast, where some of the greatest Army and Navy installations in the country have been built, the onrushing legion of wives has thrown whole areas into confusion. These wives—along with the army of war workers—form an important part of the new population of the West Coast. And it is estimated that 20 per cent of the people living there today were not there two years ago, and that 85 per cent of these newcomers will remain after the war!

Older women married for years, young girls on their first journey away from mother—each is on the move, her plans for the future and the solid foundation of established family life thrown out of balance by the war's hold on her husband and by her own need to stay near him until the day of final departure.

Little things mean so much to these couples waiting and dreading separation. In one USO a young wife cried bitterly because a club davenport was to be sent out to be reupholstered. When a staff member asked what was the trouble, she sobbed, "Johnnie and I sit on that couch every evening and pretend that the club is our apartment and we are sitting on our own davenport. Can't you leave it until he's shipped?" The davenport stayed!

A soldier's morale depends upon a lot of little things. The most important is the welfare of his wife. Actually "Just to be near you" is a sweet sentiment for a love song, but in real life it leaves

By FLORENCE WILLIAMS
USO Consultant on Health and Recreation
for the National Board, Y.W.C.A.

much to be desired. A wife, even though she lives just around the corner from camp, is no bundle of cheer

to her soldier husband if she finds herself cooped up in a tiny room with nothing to do all day but wait for the few free hours he can spend with her. And a tiny room is what she is likely to find, if she's lucky, because towns near military areas are jammed to the attics.

She'll be even luckier if she finds a job in this town that's bursting at the seams. And a job is something many an Army wife must have, not only to keep busy for her disposition's sake, but because she must earn money to supplement her husband's pay check. Otherwise she could not remain near him at all.

In their eagerness to join their husbands, many of these wives overlook the fact that even in these days of manpower shortage there can be areas of surplus labor. Thousands of courageous girls give up good jobs and trek across country hoping to find work near their husbands, often gambling their last nickel on that hope. Sometimes arriving with a baby in their arms, they seek rooms, jobs, and a day nursery for the baby.

Serving Wives and Children

USO directors perform countless services for these women—services which include finding them living quarters for a night or a month, locating husbands, fathers, and sons in camp, putting newly arrived children in schools, arranging recreation and cooking centers, and setting up classes in nutrition, baby care, and sewing.

A kitchen is an unknown quantity to many of these girls, and so USO kitchens are in use constantly, sometimes being signed for weeks in advance. Although most wives won't admit they can't cook, they are all anxious to learn new recipes. Girls from Texas want to make New England boiled dinners, and those from Maine, who are sent to the Mexican border, want to know all about beans and frijoles. Cooking and nutrition classes are blossoming all over the country, and the husbands are the enthusiastic recipients of some surprisingly good concoctions.

Many suggestions for activities come from the

wives themselves. In one club the girls decided to get out a monthly letter from "Betty Jeep" to their friends who had left the post. They told all the gossip, addressing the letter to "Dear Khaki-Wackies." At Medford, Oregon, the girls wrote a "Handbook for Wives" which they sent to the wife of any soldier who reported the imminent arrival of

"his better half." The prospectus included information on the kind of clothes to bring, the possibilities of getting a job, room and board, the cost of living, and a listing of every store in town.

A weekly luncheon followed by interest groups takes popularity honors. The meal is planned, cooked, and served by a committee and is often the one good meal in the week for many girls. Interest groups vary from Red Cross sewing, knitting or bandage rolling to gym and sports and child care courses. Girls from the North, South, East, and West play and work together, and in playing and working they learn to understand and be more tolerant of each other's differences.

"Heir Corps" clubs, *Layette* and "Ladies-in-Waiting" clubs have swept the country because many of these girls are expectant mothers—often with their first baby—away from home, young and pathetically afraid. In such groups the girls get together to make layettes, sew baby clothes, and discuss their common problems. Doctors, nurses, and public health officials give their time and talent so that the girls may really know what is happening to them and what to expect and so that babies once arrived will be properly cared for.

In one club a "Loan Cradle" was started by the USO and the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion when they discovered an expectant mother in serious financial trouble, with only half a dozen diapers laid away as Junior's layette. The plan



USO Division, National Board, Y.W.C.A.

These war workers, who serve as volunteers at the USO Club, live in a trailer and like it! However, they welcome the opportunity to prepare an occasional snack in the Club's kitchen.

was to have on hand as much baby equipment as possible—beds, bassinets, high chairs, buggies, clothing, so that when an enlisted man's wife has a baby it will not be necessary for her to buy things the baby will outgrow in a short time. She borrows equipment from the Cradle and returns it when Junior has grown past that stage. An appeal made through the local newspaper immediately brought two beds, complete with mattresses, sheets, pillows, pillow cases and pads, dozens of diapers, baby sweaters, booties, socks and blankets. The Loan Cradle is now a thriving institution.

Families of war workers are wartime victims, too, in the Pacific area as in other regions. Often they come from comfortable homes in towns where they are known and respected. They arrive as total strangers in—let us say, Vallejo, California, which in prewar days had 19,000 residents and today has more than 100,000, thanks to the Navy and the vast new shipyards! Of the tens of thousands of new workers great numbers of them are women, and several thousand are Negroes.

The tremendous influx of Negroes to this part

of the country has brought many racial tensions. Already social workers are concerned that the old patterns of segregation may be repeated here not only because communities often believe it easier to follow the most conservative patterns in dealing with race relations, but also because many of the shifting population come from communities where segregation exists and are seeking to transplant it.

Housing Projects Help Solve Problems

Government housing projects as well as trailer camps (that are fast disappearing as the housing projects rise) have been a partial solution to the problems presented by this fantastic migration, both Negro and white. In Vallejo alone almost a dozen such projects, both federal and private, are perched crazily on the wind-swept slopes.

In some large housing projects where local resources are inadequate or unavailable, the Federal Public Housing Authority and the FSA have requested the help of USO. Sometimes our leaders carry on an extension program in a trailer, in project recreation buildings, or in temporary buildings nailed together by the workers themselves. In one such spot the fathers and mothers got together and planned their own recreation building. The women cooked supper every night out under the trees while the men used their hammers and saws. Everybody had a grand time at this series of "cook-outs." The children gathered wood, the women cooked the wieners and hamburgers, and the men worked until dark night after night putting up the portable walls and floors.

In Hermiston, Oregon, families of war production workers arrived with furniture scratched and broken from a long haul in cars and trailers. They had not been able to bring pictures for the walls nor any knickknacks. The housing units, though clean, were barren, located in the sand and sage brush, so the House Beautiful Project was started.

The wives of workers were invited to the recreation hall to see samples of home crafts on exhibit. They all immediately wanted to make things to brighten their homes. They brought their furniture to the club and helped each other mend and paint it. They cut and framed pictures from the art magazines. Wall plaques were made by the dozen. Women in the pottery group made lovely bowls and vases. Cork table mats and coasters decorated with colorful designs in tempura paint were especially prized possessions. Trailer mothers developed their own line of spongex toys and animals; nonskid soap dishes rated with Papa!

These informal crafts led to many other interesting projects. It was easy to get acquainted in the Crafts Shop, and when the women knew each other they wanted to do other things together. Thus the program grew.

In the town of Ordnance, ten miles away — a development that sprang out of the desert to house workers in the great ordnance depot there — our workers, in cooperation with the project office, have secured a branch of the state library. The residents are delighted and are turning out to be among the greatest readers in the state!

They are working out a system of self-government in the project, too, aided by the USO recreation-health representatives and by the project manager, who was once the director of an FSA trailer and is now, with his wife, among the most enthusiastic of USO volunteers. They have interesting family recreation organized and music and craft activities.

Sometimes in our work in such federal housing projects we carry on all the recreation; in other places we supplement what local agencies can provide. With the cooperation of the project's manager and the blessing of the tenants, council committees of men and women, or teen age boys and girls, or both, are organized so that they may plan and carry out their own program.

In one coastal town shipyard workers brought material and made all the equipment for playgrounds in their trailer town. They even built playground shelters for rainy days. This group of men became so enthusiastic that they used every crate and stray bit of lumber to build benches for trailer lawns. Finally "tot lots" were constructed in nine different locations and then the trailerites, in droves, joined a training course to learn how to supervise and lead playground activities.

Last spring, in trailer and housing units, the prospect of communal gardens or a little patch of one's own land had a special appeal born of experience with the uncertain food situations in booming war industry towns.

Diagrams and charts were carefully studied. Discussions at meetings included everything from proper fertilizer to contour plowing. Experienced gardeners were corralled and questioned avidly. Rakes, hoes, spades and trowels were brought out and the first bright, sharp days of spring found numerous novices digging in the sweet-smelling earth.

In spite of cutworms, aphids, Japanese beetles, corn borers and other unwelcome pests, the results

of the eager planning and hard work of the gardeners indicated that many a baby-class "truck farmer" had a thumb as green as the first spear of lettuce that broke his ground.

In many communities, where a variety of vegetables sprouted in defense housing and trailer gardens, community canning and dehydration demonstrations were arranged at the club in cooperation with the state nutritionist and the county nutrition council. Women whose trailer kitchens were inadequate for canning purposes were invited to use the USO kitchen and pressure cooker. In one housing unit the county agricultural department distributed pamphlets on drying, canning and preserving, and for weeks the USO bulletin board was covered with canning recipes clipped from magazines and newspapers. The women eagerly took advantage of these practical helps and later the fruits of their labors were exhibited and judged at a canning display in the USO club. Ribbons were awarded to the winners.

Even the little girls from this same housing development, upon forming a Girl Scout troop, chose to grow a Victory garden as their first item of business. Victory gardeners in another club had their garden soil analyzed before planting. They also sought advice on planting from the county agricultural agent and on nutrition from the home economics teacher in order to know what vegetables to choose, both for hardy growing qualities and for their health value.

For Teen-Agers

Since there are too few or no recreation facilities for teen-agers still attending high and junior high schools in some war production centers, the USO has in some instances stepped into the breach. However, USO tries, through participation on community committees with school leaders, parent-teacher groups and social agencies, to encourage the already existing community agencies to take responsibility for programs with teen-agers.

When it seems necessary for USO to offer its services, it schedules specific times for teen-agers' meetings and parties separate from its program with adults. The program may be held in the USO building at a housing project, in a school, or in other community buildings. Some of this organizing of teen-agers has had a remarkable effect on the youngsters. One bunch of tough little thirteen-year-olds who found they could have fun without breaking furniture changed their name

from the "Dirty Dozen" to "Junior Commandos." They listed the aims of the Junior Commandos as:

Eat watermelon
Learn to dance
Have football games in the fall
Be better citizens
Be on the radio

Occasionally a town, slow to recognize the needs of teen-agers, becomes enthusiastic after seeing results. Once aroused, the community usually takes over with a will and USO drops out.

All Honor to Volunteers!

Without volunteers this diversified job of the USO would not be possible. An army of more than a million men, women, and young people lend their time and talents to the work of the USO all over the country. They man the information desk, serve behind the snack bar, sit on the council or operating committee, help with the records, and keep the phonograph and circulating libraries in order. They mend and sew and bake, they chaperon the dances and teach the classes, they lend their known skills and uncover new ones never dreamed of. All this and more the volunteers are doing.

Twenty women donated more than 400 hours of their time within a week in one club when they sewed braid on more than a thousand Army caps. In another club a volunteer housing committee divided the town into seven areas and took the responsibility for investigating and reporting available rooms in each area. In some communities already busy recreation leaders have volunteered hours to teach square dancing, crafts or lead a training course.

In some military and industrial areas we serve, USO encountered an entirely new problem of securing volunteers. In the past, social workers have usually had the very cream of their community from which to select their unpaid workers. USO directors, however, often arrived in brand new communities without an established pattern, or in communities so overburdened by a sudden rise in population that the established patterns had broken down. Faced with this situation they had to begin afresh. And this, it turned out, was a very salutary thing. Everybody was a possible volunteer: factory worker and bank president, housewife and club woman, church group member and labor union representative, experienced and inexperienced. Hidden abilities were developed and the directors understood as they never had before the import-

(Continued on page 106)

Those Young Folks of Ours!

Every week brings us news of the establishment of more youth centers in all parts of the land. Almost daily, pictures reach us showing boys and girls vigorously cleaning and renovating old buildings, or dancing to the music of juke boxes, or enjoying a snack and a drink at the soda bar. It's sweeping America—this youth center movement. And we, the grown-ups, owe it to these young people of ours to see to it that back of them, ready to extend a helping hand, are wise, unobtrusive adult leaders.

Instead of Curfew Laws

By ALLEN K. HEYDRICK

Board of Commerce
Bradford, Pennsylvania

ONE MORNING in February 1943 the community of Bradford, Pennsylvania, awoke to the realization that juvenile gangs and teen age youngsters were getting themselves into more and more scrapes. After a number of these escapades had been publicized, some of the local groups set up a cry for the re-enactment of the curfew law. This might have been successful had it not been for the farsightedness of Mayor Hugh J. Ryan and members of the Civic Committee of the Board of Commerce, who believed that inflicting another regulation on already over-regulated boys and girls was not the answer to the problem.

So this little group decided to do something about it. The Mayor called a meeting of representative citizens and invited to it youth representatives from the city schools. The teenagers were urged to tell why the present

situation existed and were asked whether they would cooperate with the curfew law. The boys and girls present at the meeting were "cagey." They stated they would prefer not to answer at that time, but said they would talk with their fellow students and report back to the group in the next two weeks. This they did, and their report submitted at a subsequent meeting stressed the following points:

1. The curfew law would not prove a solution to the problem but rather would lend itself to further violation of laws.

2. The chief reason why the gangs were running the streets was that they had no other place to go.

When it was suggested to them that local youth agencies were providing facilities for them, their answer was that they wanted a place of their own where even under adult leadership they could do the things which they could not do in any of the existing agencies.

After lengthy discussions a joint committee of youth and adults was set up to establish a downtown "hang-out" as the teenagers termed it—a recreation center in the nomenclature of



Photo by R. D. Fraser, Bradford, Pa.



Photo by R. D. Fraser, Bradford, Pa.

the adults. A downtown empty storeroom was obtained rent free and work was begun. The student general committee organized subcommittees, including one on constitution and bylaws, work committees, a procurement committee, a finance committee, and committees on facilities and publicity.

The center was on its way! The Board of Commerce contributed \$1,000 to the project. It was matched by city funds and a similar amount from the School Board. A dance floor was laid, booths were constructed, a soda bar purchased, and a juke box installed on a fifty-fifty basis. Linoleum was laid, walls were painted and papered, murals were painted on the walls, a shuffleboard, table tennis

"If it's to be our center we're going to have a hand in making it!" They're saying that all over the country these days.

Bradford is a thriving city of about 20,000 people located in the north-western part of Pennsylvania. Though not a war industry-centered community, as the so-called "oil metropolis of the world," it shares with other busy cities many wartime problems, one of which is juvenile delinquency.

table, and a pool table were obtained, and the center was ready to be opened. Student participation in the work was beyond expectations, and the enthusiasm generated by the publicity through the school brought gratifying results.

For the opening night it was decided to have a "come-and-see" open house for the adults of the community, when all those who had worked on the center could be seen engaging in the activities which would normally be carried on. Many skeptical and nonskeptical Bradfordians stopped in to see the "hang-out" and its activities.

The B-Hive (so named to be representative of the Bradford High and St. Bernard High) officially opened the following evening. The Mayor,

members of the City Council and the Civic Committee of the Board of Commerce, and other officials donned aprons for the evening and put on a "Stage Door Canteen" act. The Mayor presided at the coke bar; the president of one of the women's clubs, along with other outstanding women, waited on tables; a representative of the Community Chest ran the cloakroom, and the secretary of the Board of Commerce racked pool balls. The teen-agers loved it!

In addition to the membership cards issued school youths, those out of school a year may secure cards.

The center, which is in charge of a paid worker, is open Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 3:30 to 5:30 and from 7:30 to 10:30. On Fridays and Saturdays it is open from 3:30 to 5:30 and from 7:30 to 11:30. The late schedule also applies after dances, basketball games, and similar events.

An interesting development in Bradford has been the establishment, along with the youth center, of a Recreation Commission charged with developing a community-wide recreation program. This Commission was established with the help of a field secretary of the National Recreation Association, and is now at work. One committee from the commission is developing winter sports facilities, and another is setting up the summer playground program.

Teen Age Nights

By LILLIAN SCHWERTZ

ACTIVITIES for the youth of Dallas have always been an integral part of the planned recreation program offered by the Dallas Park and Recreation Department. Recognizing current trends and the need for highly organized activities for the teen age level, and further realizing that the regular everyday activities of the past would not

Former club members now in service visit the Teen Age Nights to see old friends

"All in all," says Mrs. Schwartz, Supervisor of Playgrounds and Community Centers, Dallas, Texas, Park and Recreation Department, "Teen Age Nights at our municipal centers have proved over and over again that when young people are given wholesome fun they *do* respond, not only as participants but as leaders."

adequately serve this need without glamour and a bit of something extra, the community center leaders exerted a "turn about face" in their program planning during these high tension days. At a staff meeting of all leaders, the idea of stressing teen age activities as the current year's outstanding project was unanimously agreed upon. It was decided to have one night during the week at each center, when the entire facilities, program, and leadership would be devoted entirely to teen age girls and boys.

Each leader approached the high school principal in the surrounding community and enlisted his aid. Each principal was asked to submit the names of the natural leaders from the community. These boy and girl leaders were invited by the community center leader to serve on a community youth council. One hundred per cent response followed, for what high school boy or girl, selected



Photo by Dallas Times Herald

to represent his school, wouldn't feel honored to serve on such a committee?

Each center now has its own Youth Council and works independently of the other groups. At the first meeting of a youth council, the recreation leaders presented the idea of a teen age night and asked for discussion. The response was enthusiastically favorable.

Several meetings of each group were held before definite rules and plans were completed. These rules, made by the boys and girls themselves, were in many instances more strict than the leaders themselves would have made them. For instance, the girls decided against the wearing of slacks and shorts. The boys and girls voted against drinking intoxicants, smoking in the auditorium where there would be dancing, and against attendance by any person not between the ages of thirteen and nineteen.

The officers selected at each center became very active in attempting to make their club the best. The secretary and treasurer of one club even consulted another center's recreation leader for permission to study her club's system of keeping books and records! A special floor committee was appointed to handle all problems of discipline and to enforce the few rules that were created. This method has proved most successful and seldom is it necessary for the recreation leader to intervene.

Decorating committees keep the building colorful and attractive, with the holidays, of course, receiving particular stress in the way of decoration. Two of the auditoriums have fireplaces and on cold nights the warm glow from the wood fire plus the rose colored spotlights, strategically placed, is most effective.

Ping-pong, carroms, dominoes, checkers, anagrams, puzzles, and just "talk" are very popular in the clubrooms. Dancing, as always, is the highlighted activity of the teen age night.

Automatic record changing music machines bring the best current hits to the listeners and dancers. A teen age orchestra composed of ten boys is becoming very popular. About a year ago a fifteen year old youngster asked permission from one of the center leaders for a group of fellow musicians to practice in the building one night a week.

This permission was given and in a few months the leader invited them to play for the weekly dance. The outcome of that invitation resulted in the boys organizing a dance band known as "Johnny Alexander and his Jive Slingers" which became a definite "must" for the center's weekly dance. They have played on special occasions for the other centers, dances, and as one youngster put it, "they play what we want, just the way we want it!" which, of course, usually means loud and swingy!

During the current Red Cross drive, each center had a Red Cross Night with the weekly 10 cents club dues and the profits from the sale of refreshments donated to the Red Cross. "Sadie Hawkins" nights, Bingo parties and chili suppers have proved most popular, as have regular monthly formals. At one of the teen age nights at the Mexican center, the boys and girls were dressed in overalls and

aprons and the building was literally converted into a barn with plows, rakes, bales of hay and other farm implements lending atmosphere to the rustic effect for a special barn dance.

Clever invitations made by the members of the decorating and reception committees are sent each week to different city officials and civic-minded adults, inviting them to drop in and visit

their club. These adult visitors are surprised at the efficient and well-mannered way in which the activities are being conducted by the youngsters themselves.

Representatives from each of the eight teen age groups have been invited to serve on a city-wide youth council which is sponsored by the Council of Social Agencies.

The attendance at the teen age night varies from 50 to 100 at the smaller community center buildings, and from 200 to 500 boys and girls at the larger areas.

Teen Town

By MARJORIE G. RAISH

UNTIL LAST MAY Atchison, Kansas, was merely another small town wide open for juvenile delinquency. As the youngsters put it, "There isn't a thing to do any more. You can't go out of town

because of gas rationing. There's no place to go here except beer parlors. The drug stores even close early." Then they decided to do something about it themselves.

After talking the problem over in the young people's council composed of the church young people's organizations of the town, they sent a representative to the next meeting of the Ministerial Alliance to ask for a center where they could dance as well as play games. It was decided that the Y.M.C.A. would sponsor the center with help from the civic and service clubs.

The boys and girls were not easily satisfied. "It's got to be an attractive place—a place we can be proud of," they said. The equipment and decoration committee brought in plans for a clubroom with equipment to cost \$800. Sixty teen-agers, a great many without previous experience, canvassed the town selling shares, at \$5 apiece, to adults to raise the money. To help their campaign they prepared newspaper and radio publicity. They also scheduled two speakers—a boy and girl—at each club of the city.

In ten days they had raised the money. With this they converted the 30' x 70' rarely used banquet room of the Y.M.C.A. into a night club with tiled floor, booths, tables, service counter, stools, and nickelodeon. They equipped one adjoining room for table tennis, another for checkers, chess, and a reading table with youth magazines. Their color scheme of red, white, and blue was most attractive, and colored lights added to the coziness for dancing.

Early in September Teen Town opened with more than 350 members and many interested guests. A week later open house was held for parents and friends and a bang-up floor show of dances and music was presented under the supervision of the high school dramatic department. Within the first month the membership had jumped to 600, and after four months it was nearly 1,000.

Teen Town is open Tuesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights. The hours are 7:30 to 10:30 except on Saturday when the closing hour is 11:00. At least one hostess, who must be a member herself, is on hand at all times to check membership cards which may be procured for ten cents a month. The small fee takes care of expenses so that the club is self-supporting. No one who is not a member is allowed

to attend on regular nights. An adult sponsor is always present.

Teen Town is democracy in action. It is organized like the city of Atchison itself with a council, mayor, and city manager. To select these officers, dates for a primary and a general election of city councilmen were scheduled. Election notices were sent to all interested young people between the ages of thirteen and twenty inclusive. Both elections were held in the city hall using the city election booths and ballot boxes while appointed teen-agers acted as clerks, checkers, and judges. The five councilmen chose a mayor from among their number and an adult, the Hi-Y sponsor of the high school, to act as their city manager.

The council also appointed the following officers according to their charter: police chief and policemen, fire prevention inspector, Teen Town bureau of investigation, city hostesses and city engineer.

While the main value of the project is, of course, that it has provided a place and a program for the teen-agers of the town, its educational value is also important.

One of the boys on the committee remarked at a meeting in the city manager's office during election, "I've learned more about city government in the past few weeks than I learned in four years in high school." The city manager replied, "You know more right now about it than the majority of adult citizens do."

Peru Opens a Youth Center

"WHAT YOU GOING TO DO?"

"Where shall we go?"

"There's nothing to do and no place to go."

Such remarks could be heard among our young people last spring and early summer. From it all, during the year of 1943, a movement was started by a group of interested citizens for a recreation center for the young people of Peru. Committees were appointed, and appeals were made to individuals and organizations for the fund to establish that much dreamed-of center for youth. A very successful tag day was sponsored and a goodly sum was added to the fund.

The big question was, where, when, and what kind of program and site should be selected. Since no general policy as to the type of program was agreed upon, and no desirable

Of course the Youth Center in Peru, Indiana, had to have an appropriate name, so the Student Council took over and conducted a contest among High School students. The name selected was "School Door Canteen."

site located, the Common Council of the city appointed the Board of School Trustees to act as a recreation commission.

After devoting much time and thought to the subject, the Board decided to furnish a large room in the basement of the old high school building which could be closed off from the other parts of the building. A committee was immediately appointed to select furnishings and supervise the decorating of the room.

The color scheme chosen was a soft green for the walls and ivory for the woodwork and ceiling. Gay flowered draperies were hung at the windows. Tables and chairs were added for games. An attractive and comfortable built-in settee was placed in a nook at one end of the room. A piano and a juke box with the latest records, selected by the students, were purchased by the Commission. A candy machine and a coke machine were placed in the room. Then the room was ready for the youth of our city.

Dedication of the room and official "launching" of the recreation program took the form of an open dance for the high school students in the old high school gym with "Gobs of Swing" from the local naval air station providing music. This dance alone proved that the program had a good beginning and was wanted as well as needed by the youth of our city.

At noon as well as after school, from 3:45 to 5:00 o'clock, many students gather at the canteen. During these hours the canteen is under the supervision of the students. In addition to the canteen, a room across the hall under the stage of the old gymnasium serves as the ping-pong room where paddles and balls are constantly in use, with a line of eager students awaiting their turn.

Since the canteen is for the young people of our community, it was felt they should share the responsibility of setting up the rules, regulations, and general policies for the program of activities. A committee composed of the superintendent of schools, high school principal, dean of girls, dean



of boys, president and vice-president of the student body, the presidents of the Girls' League and Boys' League, president of the high school P.T.A., and the mother of one of the students met and set up the general rules. Certain duties were assigned to various groups and committees.

With growing interest shown by the students, it was decided by the Commission to open the canteen on two evenings, Monday and Thursday, from 7 to 10 o'clock, and from 2 to 5 o'clock on Sundays. This type of program now required a paid supervisor. After a diligent search a young woman serving as a group leader at the USO was chosen; she has assumed her responsibility and is guiding the young people in planning their entertainment and program in the canteen.

Junior high school students are not overlooked. Friday evenings are for the 7th and 8th grade pupils who are also welcome on Sunday afternoons. They may use the canteen any other night when not scheduled for another group, with members of the P.T.A. acting as sponsors and supervisors.

In addition to the activities in the canteen we have a broad activity program in the school. Social activities include many mixers and seasonal dances sponsored by various clubs organized for the varied interests of students. Other activities are intramurals, junior and senior plays, rodeo, band, orchestra, glee clubs, debates, and athletics. Organiza-

tions within the school are Girls' League, Boys' League, Junior and Senior Hi-Y Clubs, Girl Reserves, Commercial Club, Future Farmers, and Forensic League. These same activities, on a smaller scale, are conducted in the junior high.

The purpose of the canteen is to permit the young people to organize their own entertainment with the proper guidance from the supervisor and adult committee. Our young people want and appreciate this center. We are planning several more ambitious activities such as a modern square dance, ping-pong tourney, and a jitterbug contest.

Although our program is small, we in charge of the program have wanted to move slowly, setting up the program as the young people want it, since it is for them. At this date, we feel that it is a success. Now plans are to be considered for a much broader and more extensive program which will include summer activities.

Salaries and equipment for the summer program, according to J. P. Crodian, Superintendent of Schools, will be paid for by the civil city. Facilities are supplied by the school city.

"Only Ladies and Gentlemen Over Fourteen Allowed!"

FROM A GROUP of teen-agers in a town of Ohio—call it X-ville—comes the following:

"Musts"

1. It must be a place we can call our own.
2. It must be run by ourselves with all adult guidance kept in the background.
3. We must all cooperate, be one for all and all for one.
4. We must all pay dues asked of us and obey all rules.
5. We must all have membership cards and keep them with us.
6. We must stick with our president as much as possible.
7. There must be friendliness between both boys and girls, no arguments that will cause embarrassment.

When boys and girls make their own rules for the youth centers, they're very likely to be stiffer than they are when adults have a hand in formulating them. As proof of this we offer the "Musts" and Rules from the youth center in "X-ville," Ohio.

8. This must be the best recreation center for teen-agers ever to be started in X-ville.

Rules

1. No smokes, no pop, no hats on the dance floor.
2. Only ladies and gentlemen over fourteen allowed.
3. No drinking or evidence of drinking intoxicating drinks before coming.
4. No smoking by girls.
5. No intoxicating beverages.
6. No rowdiness that disturbs others.
7. Membership limited only to the youth of X-ville.
8. Persons neglecting rules are to be punished.
9. All speech must be kept clean.
10. No one is to enter without membership card unless it's something for outsiders.

With the "musts" and rules comes this question: "Our Association plans to fix over part of the Y.M.C.A. for us, then the Y.M.C.A. said that they would have it fixed over and have it donated to us on these terms: we have to pay all dues to them, but all money earned from our dances, parties, etc., will be our very own. Do you think that it will be a fair deal?"

It's Called "El Rancho" in Beaumont

LAST SPRING the Y.W.C.A. of Beaumont, Texas, through Esther Morrison, secretary in charge of activities for young girls, and with the cooperation and advice of all the high school principals, organized a Youth Council. Two leaders from each class at Lamar Junior College and from the four high schools were selected to help plan a program for the teen age group.

This Council, with Miss Morrison and Reese Martin, Superintendent of the Park and Recreation Department, planned the first party, called the "Youth Roundup," which was held at the South Texas State Fair grounds. Here, in the early evening, games such as volley ball, horseshoes, badminton, croquet, and miniature golf were played out-of-doors. After dark the group moved into a building with a large dance floor, and dancing to

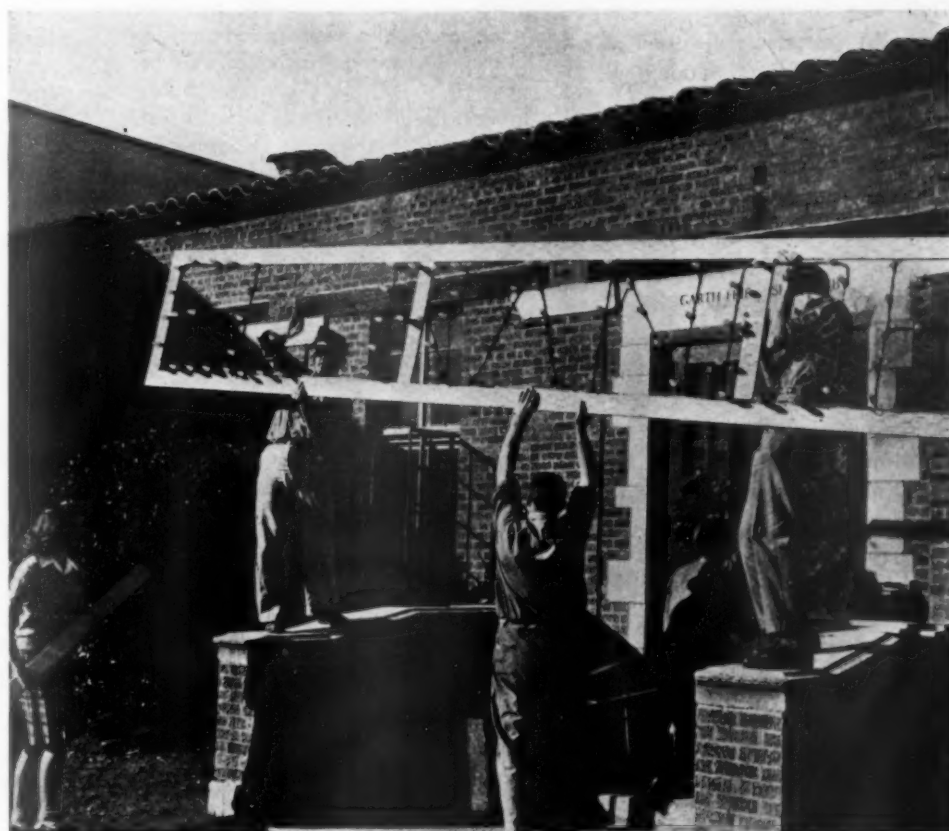
a juke box was in order. Those who did not dance were provided with games in another building. Table tennis, box hockey, shuffleboard, badminton, volley ball, checkers and other quiet games were enjoyed. The party was such a success that the Youth Council voted to continue the "Roundups" twice a month.

When school started in September, it became apparent that there was need for a center where the young people could come together more often. The

Junior Welfare League came to the rescue and secured from the Y.M.C.A. a small unused gymnasium. With the help of the Park and Recreation Department the building was renovated and painted, and the boys and girls were invited to arrange and decorate it to suit their own taste. Soon the walls had been decorated with cleverly designed murals typifying the traditions and life of Texas. During the Christmas holidays the center was decorated with the pine boughs and cones which are native to East Texas.

Then came the question of an appropriate name for the new center. The Junior Welfare League conducted a contest to decide this important matter and offered a war bond as an award. A committee from the Youth Council selected "El Rancho" as the most distinctive name.

"El Rancho" is equipped with furniture and a library of books turned over to the Junior Welfare League when the Civil Air Patrol was disbanded. Another gift was a cold drink and snack bar. Profits from sales at the bar help pay for the services of the employed leader and aid in meeting other expenses. The Park and Recreation Department furnishes a juke box and games such as checkers, skittles, and table tennis. The center is



Business Men's Studio, Beaumont, Texas

open on Friday nights from 4 to 11:30 P. M., on Saturdays from 2 to 6 P. M., and every afternoon and evening on holidays.

The Junior Welfare League provides a paid worker who is in attendance at all hours when the center is open. The rules, which are simple, are made and enforced by the Youth Council. A membership fee of fifty cents per person for six months is charged; age requirements are fifteen to twenty years. The center boasts of a membership of 700, and the one drawback is that "El Rancho" is too small to permit the full membership to attend at one time.

New Haven's Booster Clubs

THE ORGANIZATION of Booster Clubs has helped enormously to meet the challenge of juvenile delinquency in New Haven, Connecticut, ever since the Park Department began campaigning for an adequate recreation program to keep the children off the streets at night.

Under the guidance of Walter L. Wirth, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, the first Booster

Club was founded with a threefold purpose — physical, social, and civic. Today there are nine such recreation centers in strategic parts of the city, and in the period from November 15 to December 1 nearly 13,000 boys and girls attended these centers. With the city divided into nine districts, seven of the Booster Clubs are located in public school buildings, and two of the recreation centers are in housing projects.

Fulfilling the first purpose of the Booster Club—the physical program—basketball is the current favorite of the boys, although in their proper seasons volley ball, football, track, and softball aren't far behind. Besides competitive games there are sports and games that stress individual ability. Such a test is found in the five obstacle courses that have been built and centrally located in the parks. Identical with those used in the armed forces to train soldiers, the obstacle courses have done much to improve the health of New Haven teen-agers.

Last summer intrapark competitive games were conducted and park and district champions chosen.

A warning was sounded at the three-day conference of public welfare commissioners and representatives of children's services held at the U. S. Children's Bureau early in February, when a number of the conferees said that some communities fighting juvenile delinquency were putting too much confidence in juke boxes and dancing. It was suggested that while teen age centers are fine as far as they go, only a broad attack on the causes of delinquency and crime will be effective.

A city-wide sport festival at which war stamp prizes were awarded to the winners of the various competitions concluded the summer program.

One night of the five-nights-a-week program is devoted to social activities alone. The girls are greatly interested in dancing, so there are informal classes

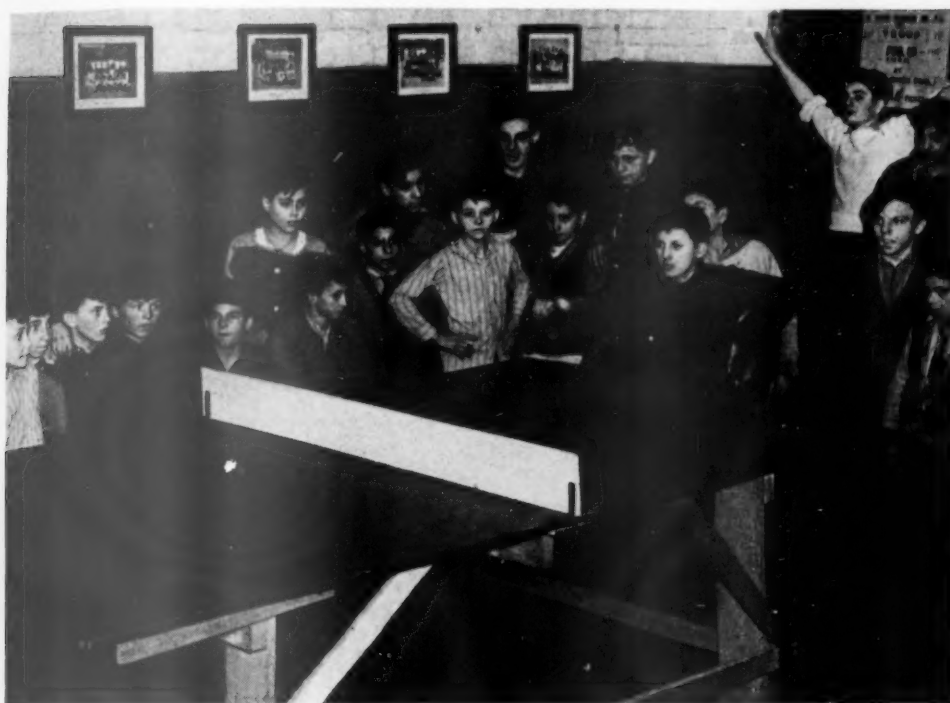
for those who want to master all the latest steps while the more expert choose partners and really "swing out." Another aspect of the recreation program provides instruction in arts and crafts for Booster Club members interested in learning how to make new craft articles.

When it comes to the civic part of the program, these teen-agers know just what the score is. Not only do they elect their own officers—a president, vice-president, secretary, marshal, and sergeant-at-arms—but they are continually drafting programs, exchanging ideas, debating issues, and thrashing out whatever teen age problems they come up against.

An important objective of the Booster Club plan is to instill a civic pride in the youth of the city,



Business Men's Studio, Beaumont, Texas



corners, today most of these same boys are engaged in healthy activities at the Booster Clubs. In addition, a new bond of friendship between various neighborhoods in the city has sprung up with contacts made through activities encouraging the exchange of ideas within groups.

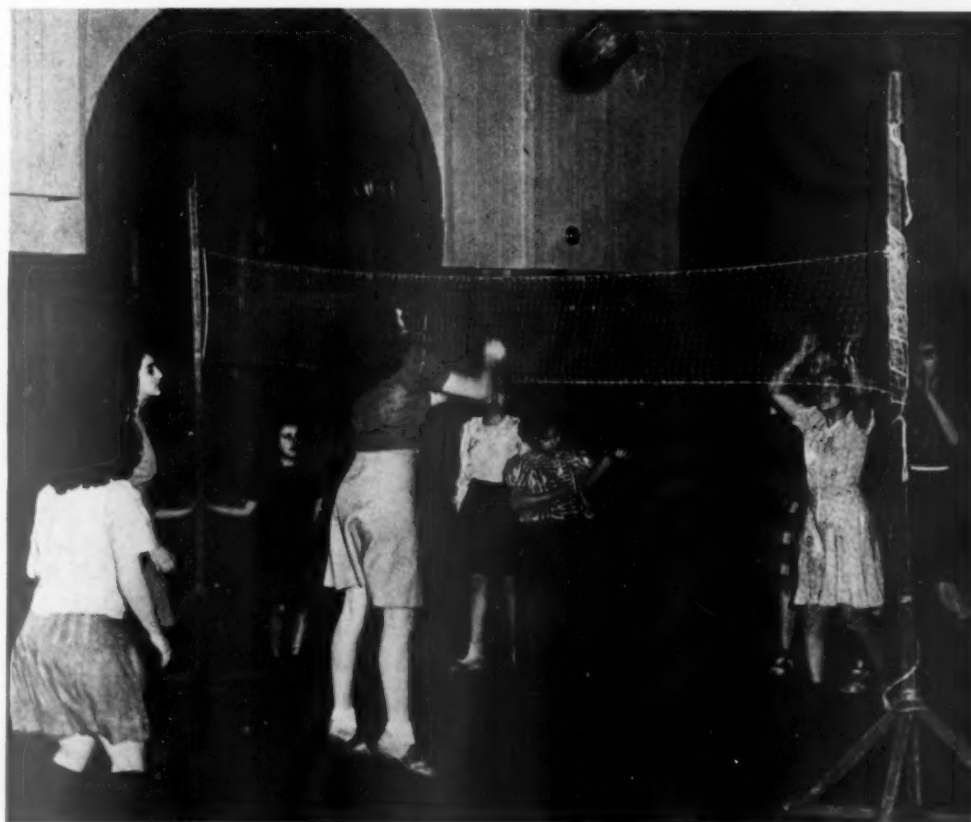
So successful have Booster Clubs been in New Haven that Frank J. Barry,

to help them appreciate the value and beauties of nature as found in New Haven parks. This is achieved by having each youngster sign the Honor Pledge, in which he promises to respect and preserve all private and public property in the community. The pledge also offers an opportunity for the boy and girl to list the activities that are most interesting to them.

Whereas little more than a year ago many of the boys in the city were spending their leisure time in petty gambling or standing on street

"This year," says Frank J. Barry, Director of Probation, "has seen the lowest rate of destruction of property in our public parks, and the Booster Club has probably been the greatest single contribution to the war on juvenile delinquency in New Haven."

Director of Probation, recently stated, "This year has seen the lowest rate of destruction of property in



our public parks, and the Booster Club has probably been the greatest single contribution to the war on juvenile delinquency in New Haven."

Teen Club—the Big Brother Way

Club ONE-9-TEEN, the brand new youth recreation center which made its bow at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the week of Washington's Birthday is interesting for five reasons:

In downright "snazziness" (to use our idea of a teen age expression), Club One-9-Teen could make any number of commercial spots anywhere sit up and take notice.

It was initiated and presented to the City Council and City Recreation Commission to be administered by the Young Men's Bureau, junior division of the City's Chamber of Commerce. To make the club possible, the Bureau raised a solid \$16,000—the contributions of civic-minded business organizations and individuals—one individual, in particular.

The Young Men's Bureau received incalculable help, according to the president of the Young Men's Bureau himself, when going got so rough as to be almost hopeless, from a single individual—another business man in the city.

Although juvenile delinquency entered into arousing Bureau interest in the project in the initial stages, the term was soon dropped. The project became purely recreational in aim.

What started the Young Men's Bureau off on the project which was to mean seven months of hard work and plenty of discouragement? For one thing, the Bureau is a project-minded crew. Since 1941, for example, the

city of Cedar Rapids has had a beautiful swimming pool in lovely Ellis Park, thanks to the Young Men's Bureau. It was their project.

While Cedar Rapids has no acute or soaring juvenile delinquency figures, Navy cadets at Coe College and ASTP students at near-by Iowa University have put week-end recreation places at a premium. The Young Men's Bureau talked about the situation among themselves. At a state meeting of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Cedar Rapids Bureau suggested that the Chamber give some attention to youth problems, and volunteered to take the subject as a project.

President of the Young Men's Bureau, six foot four ex-football player Dick Buresh, appointed a committee of twelve with forty-five members to make a real study of Cedar Rapids' youth activities. Some of the activities studied, in addition to recreation, were employment, parent cooperation, youth leadership. As the survey progressed and results were tabulated, one finding was repeated again and again: There was no really nice place for the young crowd to go.

The survey of youth activities had started in May. It took about a month to polish off. The first of July, the Bureau campaign for a really nice place for the high-schoolers of Cedar Rapids was on.

"Four or five times at least, we hit snags that seemed like the end," Dick Buresh points out in telling the story of the club. After spending weeks looking for the ideal location and making all plans for it, the building chosen for the new club was suddenly rented to another organization.

After a second location was finally found (above a store, next to the city's nicest and largest movie), priority headaches set in. Essential equipment seemed unattainable. After weeks of maneuvering,

"Boy Meets Girl" at the Refreshment Bar



If it's complete modernity you're looking for, you'll find it at the Youth Center in Cedar Rapids, which has a membership of over 2,100



Photo by Cedar Rapids Gazette

the Bureau would finally think an essential landed. Plans would be made accordingly. Suddenly, everything would again become unattainable.

Throughout all the other problems, there were recurring financial snags. Came one that looked like "the end." However, a single business man outside the Bureau organization came to the rescue then—and at other succeeding crises. Other civic-minded organizations and individuals joined the list of contributors.

Finally, after months of day-in-and-out hard work, with much of the endeavor and more and more of the work rolled up by fewer and fewer helpers, things began to materialize. On December 16th, *The Cedar Rapids Gazette* carried the news to the city: "Plan Youth Recreation Center." On December 17th, the chairmen and secretaries of the various youth committees were announced. January 30th the youth governing board detailed plans and announced a drive for membership. Early in February the director and assistant director were hired. At the same time the grand opening week was announced: two nights for a parents' preview; one night for youth at large to "come see." On Saturday, February 26th, the Young Men's Bureau and Recreation Commission were to formally present the club to the high-schoolers. An on-the-spot radio broadcast of the festivities was scheduled. A centrally located, really attractive place of their own had become a reality for Cedar Rapids' high-schoolers.

How is the Club organized? It's definitely the high-schoolers' own. They will have complete charge under the executive committee, which aims to be as representative of the city as the youth board is for the high-schoolers. It includes two members from the Recreation Commission, a representative

from the School Board, a representative from the Ministerial Association, a priest, two women at large from different sections of the city, two members from the Young Men's Bureau, two from the Chamber of Commerce, and as an ex-officio member, the director of the Playground and Recreation Commission.

Youth? There are fourteen members on the youth governing board: president, secretary, and two members from each of the committees—membership, finance, public relations, house, entertainment, policy, and employment. Each chairman has twelve people on his committee.

Membership is open to all pupils from the ninth through the twelfth grades at a yearly membership fee of \$1.50. Those out of school working may join if they are from fourteen through seventeen years of age.

Temporarily, at least, the Club will be open every day of the week. Monday through Thursday, hours are from 3 to 10, Friday and Saturday, they're 3 to midnight. Sunday, the club will be open from 2 to 10. It is hoped to have a real dance orchestra every Saturday night. The big aim of the Young Men's Bureau, the Executive Board, and the Recreation Commission is, to quote R. L. Sweet, one of the most hard working of the Bu-

reau members, "We want the Club One-9-Teen to be a recreation center, not a juvenile delinquency clinic."

What makes the Club One-9-Teen so "snazzy"? It has the gay coloring and soft lighting the "bobby sock" crowd goes for. The reception lounge with its blonde wood furniture, chartreuse drapes against floor length windows, and mulberry upholstered davenports and low comfortable lounge chairs is as "swish" as the movie scenes. The snack bar serves everything from malteds to hamburgers and shoe string potatoes.

Club One-9-Teen, too, has the contrast of a teen-ager's moods. The second floor is as rustic as the first floor is modern. It has wonderful rafter ceilings and mellow-toned brick walls. It's the sort of place where the freshman boys will feel at home at the billiard or ping-pong tables. It's a place where the whole gang can be the "kids" they really are. It's the games and activities floor—offering everything from pool to Chinese checkers. The first floor is the dancing floor, although "strollers" will be provided on the second floor to offer music for the game-minded. Thirty booths line the dance floor and offer a chummy place to sip a coke or enjoy a sundae.

Dick Buresh has some advice for those cities or organizations considering a similar enterprise: (1) If remodelling and equipping an old building, check equipment available; (2) Check delivery dates; (3) Consider the necessity of satisfying local business concerns; (4) Before any publicity of any kind, before any campaign, there must be a person-to-person drive to get the idea of the center across. In doing this, stay away from argumentative issues. Two of these issues in Cedar Rapids, at least, could have been club hours and membership age. The big problem to iron out, in the opinion of Dick Buresh, is system and method of control.

After listening to the story of how this young men's organization worked everything out while at the time carrying on their own individual business enterprises, our personal advice would be: "Prepare for work." Dick Buresh admitted that one grim night he figured up the time he had spent. Translating it into dollars and cents, it amounted to \$2,000 worth.

All workers, however, end on the same note: "It was all worth it! Every minute! Every headache!"

Manhasset's "Juke Box"

By BEATRICE F. LIPSETT

PERHAPS YOU SAW the March of Time movie entitled "Youth in a Time of Crisis." If so, for a few seconds you glimpsed the "Juke Box" of Manhasset, Long Island—the result of a community effort to give the teen-agers a place of their own.

Ours is a community comprised mainly of over-privileged children. Nevertheless, the most frequently voiced request during a round table discussion of their problems was for a "club room of their own—not part of school."

Since the town's Recreation Committee acts as a part of the School Community Association, a request to the School Board for funds for a full-time recreation leader was made—but turned down. We had expected the clubroom supervision and activities to be part of this director's job. However, the committee set out to prove the need for a leader by showing in various ways how much the young people wanted a gathering place of their own.

The use of a long, narrow store was donated and liability insurance secured. Because it was vacation time, and no committees met, it fell to two women to get the work started—one, a talented artist; the other, a mother and housewife. Over a period of six weeks we got together about one hundred boys and girls and a small art committee, all under the schedule chairman.

Ceiling and walls had to be painted, Venetian blinds designed on the windows, benches and barrel chairs made, cushions sewed, juke box covered and painted, piano decorated, lamp shades made, art work done on the walls, and a dozen other "dressing-up" jobs completed.

Because there were no funds, and at that point no definite organization behind us, we worked with scrap wood, old paint—anything to keep costs down. Except for a decorating plan and a determination that the young people must do most of the work to feel the club belonged to them, we were steaming ahead, quite unorganized. It took about six weeks of hard work and concentrated effort to get ready to open.

In the beginning it was felt that the work would be justified if the club served the needs of about twenty-five people—mostly freshmen and sophomores—as the social pattern of seniors is usually

(Continued on page 107)



Courtesy San Francisco Recreation Department

Teen Age Activities in San Francisco

THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT of San Francisco has always sponsored teen age activities at all its units. It is, however, maintaining a number of teen age centers which differ in setup in that the young people themselves plan and conduct their own activities under the leadership of a director.

They Grew Out of Dances

These centers are the direct outcome of the social dances for teen-agers which the Recreation Department has successfully conducted since October 1942 with an average weekly attendance of 1,650. The young people have taken turns serving on the dance committees and have done this in such a capable and enthusiastic manner that it not only assured success for the venture but developed an entirely new and previously unrecognized leadership quality. Many playground directors in the past have inaugurated a junior leadership system, but never to the extent to which it is now being developed in the teen age centers. It is a credit to the young people's judgment that they have an excellent understanding of their responsibilities and are ready and eager to abide by the letter of the law of proper social life.

Teen-agers, being neither adults nor children, yearn for the company of those of their own age and apparently do not enjoy themselves with as much abandon among their younger brothers and sisters. And so the exclusive feature of social dances for the teen age group was encouraged, with members having their own numbered cards, bearing their signatures. To acquire membership one must live in the neighborhood and apply to the director in charge of the center. Approximately 4,000 boys and girls have received membership cards since these dances were organized. Letters are sent to the parents advising them of their children's membership and the day and hour of dances, and they are invited to visit the centers occasionally.

With the influx into San Francisco of thousands of war workers and their families, as well as a large number of teen age boys and girls unaccompanied by parents, the provision of adequate recreation for this group is being given special attention by the Recreation Department. There are now nine centers for the exclusive use of the teen-agers, and many other recreational opportunities are increasingly being made available to them.

The facts given here were taken from *San Francisco ReCreation* (February 7th), issued by the Recreation Department.

The membership cards must be presented and checked against the books by a reception committee on the evening of the dance before the holder of the card is permitted to enter the "inner sanctum" of the teen age dance. Here dancing such as particularly delights the heart of youth is the order of the evening, to the accompaniment of the usual teen age banter, the meaning of which the average grownup can only guess!

The dance committees

usually plan a special theme for their dances once a month. This includes hard-times or barn dances, semiformal affairs; and special decorations such as leis for Hawaiian dances, stars and moons for a New Moon dance, etc. For many of these special events the young people spend weeks in preparation and sometimes the younger children assist them.

The dance membership has also turned to constructive war work in the Junior Red Cross and to the making of toys for child care centers. One group purchased a War Bond for their playground and bought some athletic equipment for servicemen overseas. On one occasion a former playground associate, who had entered the armed forces, sent word that the men in near-by camps were in need of coat hangers, whereupon a drive was held by all the teen age groups who brought in several thousand hangers for the camps.

Many of the playground boys in the armed forces when home on leave return to spend an evening at the dances which they helped organize.

Eight of the dance groups, at the suggestion of one of the committees, participated in the Third War Bond drive by requiring the purchase of a War Stamp for admission to dances. The dance halls were decorated in patriotic colors for the occasion, and girls in the uniform of the AWVS sold

stamps. The evening brought a total of \$167.35 in stamps and \$250 in War Bonds.

These dances have a deep social significance since they help boys and girls find their place in teen age social life. Excessive use of makeup or startling clothes are frowned upon by the group, and frequently individuals must make adjustments before they qualify for the group standard. As a result of participation on the committees, members have developed a more active social as well as school life.

Youthful approval of these dances is enthusiastically expressed by such remarks as, "It's swell to have your own crowd." "We think the dances are swell—something to do on Friday night." "We aren't trying to make money, just want a little on hand for decorations and occasional refreshments. It's all for fun and we don't need a lot of money."

Dance music is provided by automatic phonographs and public address systems. The North Beach group recently presented three records to the Portola dance group for their first dance. At some units orchestras are being formed by the members and occasionally they play for some of the special dances.

Thirteen weekly dances are already being conducted, with seven more on

The young people at Sunnydale Center "trip the light fantastic" with obvious abandon!

(Continued on page 110)



Courtesy San Francisco Recreation Department

Youth Goes to Parliament

By ELIZABETH SPRIGGE

NO MATTER how heavy the weight of bombs thrown upon it, no matter how destructive the enemy's flames may be, Parliament—the "speaking place" and shrine of free speech—remains the living core of Britain's great democracy.

Its tradition is of the most ancient and its practice vitally young. Soon after the Conquest, King William I held "deep speech" with his Council, and in the 13th century, when the liberties of the people had been recognized by the signing of the great Magna Carta at Runnymede, this method of governing by conference had earned for the Common Council of the Realm the name of Parliament.

The young people of Britain today have the pioneer spirit. Nobody watching them at work and at leisure, in national service, college, school, club or home could for a moment consider them old-fashioned, fettered by tradition, or in any way stuck in the mud of outworn systems and ideas. Taking a cross section of boys and girls in their teens, drawn from every part of the country, with dissimilar educations, economic conditions and domestic backgrounds, one factor stands out the same in all.

They take nothing for granted. They demand that the shutters shall be removed and the clearest light of knowledge shed on every side of life. Politics and history, religion, art, economics, sex—it does not matter what subject is in mind—they will not accept the tenets of others blindfold. They are unsatisfied until they can see the bare bones for themselves, and on those bare bones they are prepared by patient study to mould the flesh of their own opinions.

This does not mean that the young people of Britain discount the knowledge and experience of their elders. Far from it. They are avid for help, but every lecturer finds that the young now are the most exacting of all audiences because they are so hungry for truth that only pure reason will satisfy them, and the specialist may find it diffi-

We are very glad indeed to publish, in connection with the stories of some of the Youth Centers in our own country, this account of the Youth Parliaments which the young people of Great Britain are conducting in an effort to keep themselves informed of world developments.

Miss Sprigge, who is associated with the work being done in the schools and youth clubs of London's East End, is the daughter of the late Sir Squire Sprigge.

cult to descend from the top story of the tower he has built in years of thought and study to examine and explain the structure of its foundation. But if he fails to do this, his young audience will be unimpressed by the pinnacles, however lofty and even if crowned with glory.

But youth, searching for its own pattern for the future, does not discard tradition merely because it is old, any more than it extols it for this

reason, and so boys and girls have found that in order to enlarge and crystalize their views they can make profitable use of their country's ancient, democratic system of government.

Most youth clubs, whether of one sex or mixed, are run by a management committee of adults and young people together, and subcommittees of the boys and girls themselves. In addition, for inter-club discussions of general affairs, some organizations have instituted central Parliaments to which local clubs send their elected members.

Such Youth Parliaments are, in fact, miniatures of Britain's House of Commons and closely follow its traditional procedure. This experience has taught the members that Parliament, for all its name, is no mere common-room for the airing of views or the listening to one's own voice, but a highly developed organization for orderly debate.

Thus, at the opening session, as in Britain's Parliament itself, the members elect their Speaker, who is the chairman of the House of Commons, and he or she, followed by the other members, takes the oath of allegiance to the throne. Sometimes members prefer to have an adult club leader as Speaker; others elect one of the ordinary members. The Cabinet Ministers are then chosen, partly on specialized interest in or knowledge of specific subjects such as health or agriculture, partly on ability in speaking.

There is plenty of gaiety about these proceedings, but once the offices are settled, all remarks of members must be addressed to "Mr. Speaker in the chair," and no member is referred to by name

but as "my Honorable or Noble Friend, the Right Honorable Gentleman or Gallant Member," as is done in the actual House of Commons.

In only one respect do some Youth Parliaments differ from the mother institution. The members generally speak as Independents rather than as members of a particular political party, whereas in the actual House of Commons, although there are Independents, they are the exception rather than the rule.

In one London Youth Parliament the present "Prime Minister" is a blind boy employed as a stenographer in the Ministry of Labor. He is an active member of his own local club where, among other activities, he enjoys a first class game of chess. This Parliament takes public affairs very seriously. Its "President of the Board of Education," a girl working in the Entertainment Tax Department of the Board of Trade, presented to the House an education bill based on Mr. Butler's "White Paper" (as British Government official publications are called). This she did in a manner which stimulated a constructive debate among the girls and boys, who had their own recent or present education as a criterion of the suggested reforms. Their own ideas were naturally

"It is not easy to be young in Britain today. Wages may be high, but work is hard and good times and good things are scarce, and the happy life all boys and girls dream of is almost as far from them as a scene in a film. Nevertheless these young people, contending with hard conditions and often separated from those they love, are of their own choice learning to understand the problems facing the world."

more drastic than the Government's, for that is the tendency of the young. At the end of the debate the House divided in correct manner into "Ayes" and "Noes," and the bill was passed by a large majority.

The "Minister of Reconstruction" is training as an architectural surveyor, so housing and land problems are of natural interest to him, and he was able to produce a White Paper of his own, partly

(Continued on page 108)

The Co-operative Union holds two summer schools in Britain, with about forty-five boys and girls between the ages of 15 and 19 in residence for a week. Discussion groups are most popular at these schools.



Courtesy British Information Services

It's Being Done in Nature Recreation

Cap'n Bill's Column of Nature-Grams

AGRICULTURAL Service by Boy Scouts—1943. 100,000,000 Boy Scout hours were realized in food production and conservation in 1943. Seventy-five work camps of more than five days were reported. The slogan for 1944 is "Produce and Conserve, Share and Play Square." The camp garden, the tree nursery, and the conservation projects will become as important as the swimming pool.

Camps. In 1940 the Federal Forest Service leased for 99 years to the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations 11,000 acres of land. The State agreed to practice modern forestry methods, to grow a wildlife crop, and to practice camping. As far as we know, this is the first time that a state has underwritten a public school camp. The Rhode Island Wildlife Federation is planning its second conservation workshop for leaders.

Food. "The Food We Live By; For Use By Young People Interested in Their Own Food and Nutrition Problems." Prepared by the U. S. Office of Education, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 1943. 14 pp. Illustrated. Price 5 cents.

"Forest Fires, Prevent." Lumber is essential to our war industries and military efforts. This poster calls for greater care in preventing needless destruction of forests. Size 20" x 28". Free from Bureau of Public Inquiries, Office of War Information, 1400 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., Washington 25, D. C.

Forests, School. Herberster School Forest, Bay-field County, Wisconsin, harvested \$2,600 worth of timber in 1940 from a 40-acre ten-year-old plantation. They expect a similar yield in another ten years. Ohio schools can obtain free of charge from the State forest nurseries enough seedlings to reforest one acre of land.

Ritter, William Emerson. 1856-1944. Born on a Wisconsin farm. Encouraged by an intelligent father. Trained in teaching at Wisconsin

State Normal School (1884). Studied under the master-teacher Joseph Le Conte. Harvard, Ph.D. (1893). Friendship with E. W. Scripps, newspaper owner. First director of Scripps Institution of Oceanography (1909). Wrote "The Unity of the Organism" and "The Natural History of Our Conduct." With Scripps founded Science Service (1921) as the institution for making science understandable to the public.

"Science, A Treasury of," edited by Harlow Shapley, Samuel Rapport and Helen Wright. Harper and Brothers, New York City, 1943. An anthology. 716 pp. \$3.95.

Science Talent. About 15,000 high school seniors competed in the third annual talent search conducted for the Westinghouse Science Scholarships. A talent aptitude examination and an essay entitled "My Scientific Project" were a part of the examination. The forty fortunate finalists were invited to a five day Science Talent Institute in Washington during March. Eleven thousand dollars in science scholarships was awarded to the forty winners. The project was conducted by Science Service, 1719 N Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

"Washington National Monument." Chicago, Illinois. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1943. (Folder, 6 pp.) Illustrated. Single copies free.

Wildlife Federation, Rhode Island. The State Department of Agriculture and Conservation has published the report of the Seventh Annual Meeting. The Federation is made up of sportsmen, naturalists, and educators interested in conserva-

tion. A film library, a workshop for leaders, and legislation are featured. 31 pp. Mimeographed. State House, Providence, Rhode Island.

"Wood, New Magic In." Third of a series, published by American Forest Products Industries, Inc., 1319 18th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 33 pp. Free.

"I shall never make you repeat what you have been told, but will constantly ask you what you have seen for yourselves." Thus spoke Louis Agassiz at the opening of his School of Natural History at Penikese Island, Buzzard's Bay, in 1873. Of his students, ninety per cent were teachers. Nature recreation, as such, had not then been born. Agassiz, who also said 'Study Nature, not books,' would have gained great satisfaction in seeing so many look to Nature for sheer enjoyment."—Cap'n Bill.

WORLD AT PLAY



Courtesy Chester, Pa., Recreation Board

A Day at the Playground

Recreation in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, took the form of a demonstration of a day on the playground. On the program were flag raising, salute, activities of the clean-up squad and safety patrol, games of all types, apparatus play, handcraft, story hour, and similar activities. A handcraft exhibit was set up so that parents and friends might see what had been done on the playground.

"Recreation Is International"

Speaking before the Recreation Executives Association of Westchester County, New York, Ford Frick, President of the National League of Professional Base Ball Clubs, recently stressed the importance of recreation in promoting a better postwar understanding between nations.

THE FIFTH annual playground pageant conducted by the Department of Public

SPEAKING before the Recreation Executives Association of Westchester County, New

The recreation programs of the future, he stated, will not be county-wide, nor state-wide, nor nationwide but international in scope, and youths of all countries will meet on a common understanding of good sportsmanship.

"Training which recreation executives represent is symbolic of the democracy for which we are fighting—the right of boys and girls to enjoy life, to play, to think, to say what they think and to meet other boys and girls on a common ground. There is no better place for the practice of democracy than on a playground—no question of color, creed, what your father or mother may do for a living."

"Extending Education"

NUMBER 1, Volume 1 of *Extending Education*, a printed bulletin

published by National Camp, Life Camps, Inc., 14 West 49th Street, New York 20, appeared recently and will be issued several times a year. The purpose of the bulletin, edited by Dr. L. B. Sharp, is to discover and describe specific projects by which education is extended into the outdoors, and each bulletin will contain a treatment of some significant discussion of camping education in action. A copy of the first issue, published in January and devoted to the teacher training project at National Camp in which Dr. William G. Vinal (Cap'n Bill) is playing a part, may be secured free on application to Dr. Sharp.

Recreation, Incorporated

SERVICEMEN of the 55th General Hospital of Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas,

are members and stockholders in the newly-formed Recreation, Incorporated, which sponsors entertainment of every description for the men at the camp—baseball, basketball, swimming, movies, dances, parties, etc. Thus far Recreation, Inc., has provided social affairs at the USO, water sports at the Y.M.C.A., basketball games at the Field House, table tennis in the day room, and magazines and books in the recreation lounge. The men who started this club have suggested that other similar units organize a Recreation, Inc., of their own to bolster morale and give services on a large scale as they have done at Camp Robinson.

A DRIVE FOR ROME

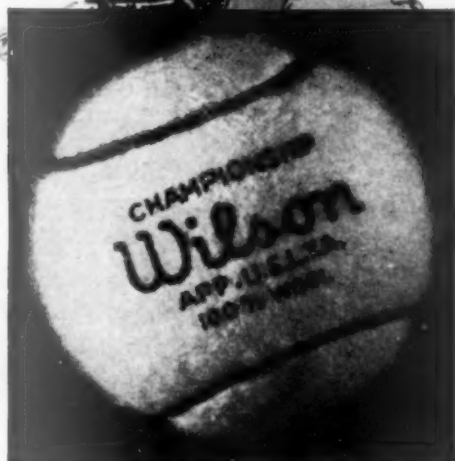
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Tough! You bet it's been tough on that road from Salerno! . . . and you can bet there's many a man there who is thanking his stars today for the hours he spent playing tennis.

Many a soldier in the drive on Rome knows he owes mainly to his tennis experience the quick, trained eye, and alert reactions, that often mean safety and success in war.

Men and women preparing for war service—or "all out" in the battle for production—can get in trim and keep fit while having real fun playing tennis. For finest rackets, and all the best in tennis equipment, ask for "Wilson's."

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TENNIS EQUIPMENT

Youth Farm Volunteers Needed—The need for youth victory farm volunteers for 1944 was stressed at a recent meeting of the Office of Civilian Defense in Washington by the U. S. Depart-

ment of Agriculture. Recreation executives are urged to cooperate in every way in their localities by calling the attention of youth participants in their programs to this need and by offering to help

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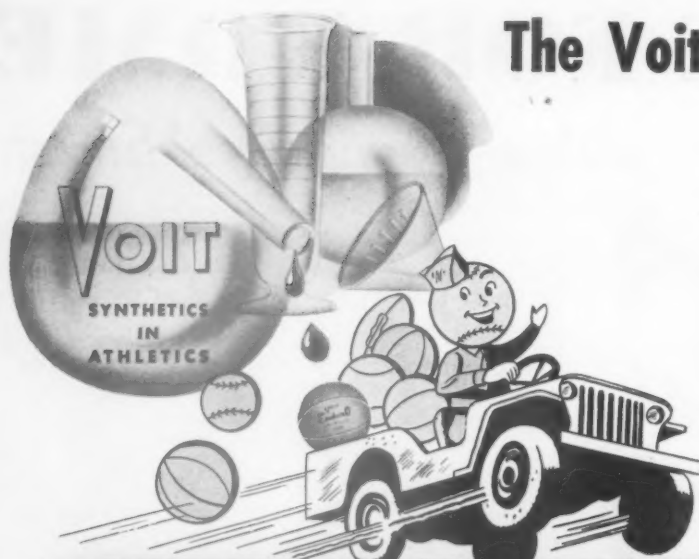
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Chicago Branch—180 No. Wacker Drive—Zone 6

agricultural leaders in planning their recreation programs for youth during their periods of farm service.

San Francisco's Recreation Budget Increased

—The Recreation Commission of San Francisco, California, has recently approved its budget of \$1,110,574 for the year 1944-45, an increase of \$323,426 over the approved budget for 1943-44. The budget includes special appropriations for teen age centers, school recreation centers, recreation services in war housing units and postwar planning.

Church Leaders Learn to Play—Oklahoma City held a community-wide recreation training institute last January, conducted by Mrs. Anne Livingston of the National Recreation Association. Ninety-five agencies sent leaders to the institute for training. The institute was well organized in advance. An interesting example of preinstitute publicity is that sent out by the Oklahoma City Council of Churches:

"Truism: Churches are dark most nights of the

week; Honky Tonks are lighted and open each night.

"Problem: What can church leaders do to increase and improve wholesome recreation at the church?

"Opportunity: Oklahoma City is bringing Mrs. Anne Livingston here for a week's theory and practice in wholesome fun. This is open to EVERYBODY, especially social life directors and leaders of children and youth. Adult leaders, this is for you too! Preachers are urged to attend."

Women's Community Clubs—The Municipal Recreation Commission of Syracuse, New York, in 1943 sponsored nine community clubs in schools, community houses, and libraries. Over 800 adult women who made up the membership contributed articles to the Red Cross, worked for local hospitals, and enjoyed social recreation.

Thanksgiving in Cairo—One of the never to be forgotten memories of the momentous Cairo Conference will be the Thanksgiving dinner at

RECREATION

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which President Roosevelt played host to statesmen, diplomats and soldiers. There was the dinner—with everything from soup to nuts—and there was also the fun which followed when President Roosevelt sang a ditty of his own composing. Prime Minister Churchill executed a dance as he waved his cigar and Sergeant Jerry Kelly of Long Island sang "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" to the great delight of the Prime Minister's daughter.

But the party would have lacked its special flavor had it not been for the famous nine piece Desert Orchestra which responded to all the requests made—and they were many—until someone asked for "Pistol Packin' Mama." This, the orchestra said, was too recent for them—they'd been overseas so long.

Says *The New York Times* in commenting on the party, "It was a characteristic American sing, old folks' concert, young folks' concert, with perhaps a little reminiscent whiff of the cooperative joyousness of the Captain's Dinner. It was a thoroughly democratic blowout and will be enjoyed by everybody that reads about it. And it is reassuring to find men who have so many per-

plexing questions and high responsibilities in their day's work able to take a few hours off for pleasure."

The James H. Galloway Park—Decatur, Illinois, recently dedicated and renamed one of the city playgrounds after James H. Galloway who served as a member of the Park Board from the time the Decatur Park District was organized in 1924 until his death in 1942. The citation, which was read at the dedication, said in part:

"It is fitting that this Park and Playground, situated as it is in his own neighborhood, should bear his name. In his memory and as a monument to his tireless, unselfish and understanding service, this park is renamed and dedicated. May his spirit of service be perpetuated through this memorial—The James H. Galloway Park."

Easter at Oglebay Park—Over 800 people attended the sixteenth annual Easter Sunrise Service at Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia, where an impressive and colorful service was held arranged by the Department of Evangelism of the Greater Wheeling Council of Churches in cooperation with Oglebay Institute. Four ministers from Wheeling churches participated in the service, and choirs from a number of churches took part.

The summer Vesper Services, held for many years at Oglebay Park during July and August, are being planned for the coming summer. Speakers of prominence from various sections of the country will attend, and other features will be added to make this year the most outstanding yet planned in this popular religious activity at the park.

National Paddle Tennis Tournament 1944—The United States Paddle Tennis Association, in cooperation with the Parkchester Recreation Department, announces open championships in paddle tennis for men and women to be held at Parkchester, a residential community of the East Bronx, New York City. Finals in women's singles and mixed doubles will be held on June 11th; men's singles and doubles on June 18th. Further information regarding conditions of entry may be secured from national headquarters of the United States Paddle Tennis Association, Madison Square Boys' Club, 301 East 29th Street, New York 16, N. Y.

The Joseph Lee Memorial Contest for Recreation Literature

THE SOCIETY OF RECREATION WORKERS of America announces its 1944 Joseph Lee Memorial Contest for Recreation Literature. As in past years, the purpose is to encourage professional recreation workers and college graduate students majoring in recreation to write not so much on the philosophy of the movement as on practical and technical phases of recreation.

The contest is open to members in good standing in the Society and to graduate students majoring in recreation who are certified by the dean of the graduate school in which they are studying.

Further information may be secured from Chase H. Hammond, Chairman of the Joseph Lee Memorial Committee, 1419 East Fourth Street, Waterloo, Iowa.

Boys' Clubs Observe Anniversary—A quarter of a million members of Boys' Clubs of America celebrated National Boys' Club Week from April 10 to 16, 1944. This occasion also marked the thirty-eighth birthday of the boys' club movement centered chiefly in the New England cities in its early days in 1906 when a federation was founded by a group of leaders interested in sharing the experiences and methods of working with boys. Today 240 clubs throughout the United States own clubhouses and camps valued at \$22,000,000.

More About Last Summer's Playgrounds

(Continued from page 62)

automobiles, was set up in the Public Square, centrally located in the downtown shopping area. Here mothers intent on shopping were urged to leave their little children as long as four hours if they wished to be away that length of time. The fee was a 10 cent war stamp for any period less than two hours and two 10 cent stamps for a period longer than two hours and less than four.

The playground was supervised by one paid worker and volunteer help from the recreation center's Victory Leaders, a group of thirteen to sixteen year old girls anxious to help in the war effort. The twenty-four girls who volunteered

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- A. Child Care Training—A Lifelong Asset
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- C. Personal Health of a Victory Leader
- D. Manual Play for Small Children
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II

- A. Active Games for Small Children
- B. Storytelling
- C. Physical Ability of a Preschool Child
- D. Playground Health Hints

III

- A. Victory Leader's Responsibilities
- B. Singing Games
- C. Mimetic Play
- D. Manual Play for Small Children
 - 1. Clay modeling
 - 2. Paper cutting and pasting

IV

- A. Care of Physical Equipment and Safety Measures on Playgrounds

- B. Singing Games
- C. What to Do When Johnny Cries
- D. Manual Play for Small Children
 - 1. Paper dolls
 - 2. Sand modeling

V

- A. Active Games for Small Children
- B. Music and Rhythms
- C. Accident Prevention
- D. Review of Craft Projects

VI

- A. Active Games for Small Children
- B. Review of Singing Games
- C. Review of Child Care Procedure
- D. Conferring of Certificates

So successful was the playground that it was felt the service should be made available in 1944 to other shopping districts, and it was suggested that the business men's associations of the various districts should be approached as possible sponsors. It was thought that filling stations which are

closed because of the war might provide facilities for new checking areas.

And Speaking of Leadership

Last summer a special publicity committee working with the Birmingham, Alabama, Recreation Board prepared a questionnaire asking for volunteer workers. This questionnaire covered very comprehensively all the abilities and talents which the Board considered important in volunteer workers.

The War Neighborhood Club distributed these questionnaires with explanatory letters to all the homes in Birmingham and also to high school and junior high students. When these had been returned and tabulated it was found that approximately fifty volunteer workers had been secured for art, dramatics, music, storytelling, handcraft, and all forms of clerical work.

Among the volunteers were two high school students interested in journalism who gathered publicity from the playgrounds and pools.

Day Camping 1943

(Continued from page 71)

housekeeping duties—gathering wood, clearing up the area and building fires.

The noon meal was the highlight of the day. The children greatly enjoyed the thrill of cooking out of doors. Camp chores were shared by all the girls, who alternated in doing dishes and cooking.

Following the noon meal came the rest hour, for which mattresses and pup tents were provided. The latter part of the afternoon was spent in crafts and nature work. Each unit decided during lunch what it would do in the afternoon. Sometimes it was making a leaf printing or visiting a rock pile in search of fossils.

After the craft period, the children cleared up and made ready for the council fire which concluded the day's program. This was one of the few periods of the day when the entire group was together, and at this time the children were taught many songs and group games.

NOTE: The Division of Recreation, Federal Security Agency, Washington, D. C., has issued a Special Recreation Bulletin (No. 84, April 25, 1944) entitled *Day Camping—A Wartime Asset*. This bulletin will be of interest to recreation leaders planning day camping programs.

Good Neighbors All

(Continued from page 66)

Older boys' and girls' clubs cooperated in the construction of refreshment booths, and the teen age

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girls created huge backdrops for the stage from brown paper and colored chalk. Photographers took pictures of the first and final rehearsal on the day of the performance. Everyone was breathless.


That evening at 7:00 P. M. the theater was crowded. The narrator opened the program in rhyme:

"So much have we liked our trip so rare
With parents and friends its highlights we share."

First of all came the procession of flags carried by one of the boys' clubs of the Center. Twenty-one flags of the American nations were brought forward and placed on the stage with the strains of the national anthems being played in the background.

"It is not for perfection that we aspire,
In dances, dramatics, handcraft, or attire.
If we can bring just a dashing effect,
We will be happy and all we expect."

The program was then under way. A group of Spanish speaking children danced El Jarabe and Las Chiapanecas in native costumes, and the smallest boys and girls, dressed as roosters, pretended they were giving a rooster contest. A Boy Scout troop staged a bull fight. Cuba was represented by a few teen age girls who danced the conga



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and by a group who had made their own tom-toms and maracas. The ten year old girls presented the Inca ceremonial dance which they had worked out in the play school project.

The dramatic Argentine tango was done by a staff worker and partner to the tune of El Choco.

"Our West has romantic cowboys,

While the Argentine has clever gauchos."

The "bull" reappeared on the stage while a gaucho tried his hand at lassoing him in the Argentine manner.

From the jungles of Brazil there appeared the "little red jungle boy" and his friends, who acted in rhythmic pantomime the swimming and fishing life of the jungle while the older girls beat upon tom-toms and later presented a rhythmic pantomime portraying the making of tortillas.

The last number on the program was a group of older teen age girls who sang "Who'll Buy My Pretty Violets?" while they threw their violets into the audience.

"Our brief fiesta comes to a close,

Exhibits, please, before anyone goes."

The audience and participants stood to sing the United States national anthem which was followed by the recession of flags.

The fiesta was over and the crowd of 1,000 people and 100 participants drifted off—many crowded around the food and exhibition booths. Hot tamales were served by a club of Spanish speaking women who meet at the Center.

In an evaluation of the summer's program both the staff and the children felt that it had been a truly creative experience. The theme had been selected by the staff but the activities were planned by the children after they had been given a background from which to work. Discussion in assembly periods and small groups stimulated the children to use arts and crafts, songs, dances, dramatics, and puppets to portray native life in the countries visited. The fiesta was a composite picture of what had been learned throughout the nine weeks' period.

What's Happening on the West Coast?

(Continued from page 79)

ance of every job—from the president of the USO Council to the soldier who repairs a broken lamp plug.

Because of the unevenness of experience and ability in this broad cross section of volunteers, training courses were soon found to be the best means by which both the volunteer and the professional worker could understand each other's responsibilities and functions. It became the director's job to make the best use of the abilities she found and to weld undisciplined enthusiasm into smoothly running teamwork.

In most of the training courses, the first lecture is devoted to an explanation of USO. Later discussions take up the specific details of volunteer work. Personal and psychological adjustments to be made are discussed; the needs of people are explained; the standards to be met are analyzed. The courses are given on the basis of working together rather than telling or teaching, and their main purpose is to raise the level of work done and to give increased security in performing the job. Junior hostesses, especially, who help entertain the servicemen, learn the functions of a hostess in her own home. This helps the girls as well as the men to grow in understanding wholesome social attitudes. Junior hostesses represent a cross section of the population, as do the servicemen themselves. And they help plan, through their own democratic set-up, for themselves and for their town. Thus, this experiment in community living will surely have some carry-over result in the postwar world.

Learning is not confined to one training course, but continues on the job through conferences with the professional worker, demonstrations, group meetings, and reading. Programs grow by questioning, watching, suggesting, and working. The volunteer and the professional worker can grow, too, until a mutually appreciated partnership results that is enriching to the individuals, the persons served, and the community itself both now and for many years to come.

Recreation and welfare leaders have faced many brand new and difficult situations as the face of this land has been transformed since Pearl Harbor. Perhaps the challenge presented by the West Coast with its teeming war centers and Army towns, overflowing with men and women from every hamlet in the country, dramatizes the social picture of America at war.

Joseph Lee Day—1944

JOSEPH LEE DAY will be celebrated this year on July 28th. Many cities observed this day in 1943, and it is hoped this year that even more will join the ranks of the communities paying honor to Joseph Lee.

The National Recreation Association will be glad to send material on the observance of the day to any group requesting it and will issue information on ways in which Joseph Lee Day was celebrated in 1943.

We of USO wonder how much impetus we have added toward community planning; we hope that when the war is over we will leave more than a building in the thousands of communities we have tried to help serve. Essentially, it is now up to those communities to decide for themselves how much planning for recreation, health, and the welfare of all they wish to carry on when the guns have stopped roaring and the bombers have stopped dropping their deadly cargo.

Manhasset's "Juke Box"

(Continued from page 92)

fairly well set. However, the average daily attendance is now about 100. The Juke Box is open every afternoon and Friday and Saturday evenings. Saturday afternoons is "clean-up time" and many of the teen-agers sign up for painting, scrubbing, waxing the bar, and carpentry. On weekday nights the club is used by special groups of either adults or teen-agers.

Table tennis, boodle ball, dancing to the juke box, drinking at the soft drink bar, playing the piano, looking at magazines, are the day to day activities. The Juke Box has been a boon to those youngsters who have not reached the "dating" stage and can come in with a group or meet friends there.

Senior hostesses—all volunteers—are scheduled by the month and have to be present one session a month or send an alternate. In the evenings, an older couple is in attendance. For certain occasions, such as basketball games, special arrangements are made to keep the club open later than 12:30.

A junior council group has chosen four heads—a general chairman, and the chairmen of the rules, refreshment, and publicity committees. There are no dues for membership except the promise to

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work one period a month. So far no plan for dealing with those who fail to keep their pledge has been worked out. We want the young people to handle the club themselves. Twice the rules committee had to deal with undesirable behavior and it did a good job.

The Juke Box—its organization and management—has shown us here in Manhasset that young people learn a tremendous amount in the "learning by doing" process. They develop new leaders, become cooperative members of society, and set a social pattern that isn't centered around a bar with liquor. At the same time many parents become acquainted with the needs of their children, and they find out by observation what are accepted social patterns.

Youth Goes to Parliament

(Continued from page 96)

based on the recent reports on these subjects made to the Government by the Scott and Uthwatt Committees.

As with education and health, the members are fully aware of the vital importance of these questions to themselves. It is their determination to know more, and to learn to form and express opinions so that they may in the end make full use of their democratic rights and influence their Government. This leads them to spend hours of their leisure in studying such subjects and often to travel long distances, despite restricted transport and possible air raids to attend the meetings of their Parliament.

The young people sometimes invite Government officials or other authorities to visit their House of Commons at "Question Time," and they always make sure that on these occasions they have studied the subject in hand sufficiently to make the best use of the presence of an expert. And it is seldom that the expert leaves such a gathering without a sense of inspiration.

Some foolish people talk of the future being in the hands of the young. They themselves know very well that it is in the hands of the young and old and middle-aged together, and they will give their wholehearted support to those who help them to qualify as responsible citizens and keep alive their hope of a better world and their determination to play a worthy part in it.

Perhaps some of these members of Youth Parliaments will take their seats one day in the time-honored, war-scarred halls of Westminster on the

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banks of the Thames, watched over by the Tower of Big Ben, but whether they do or not, the apprenticeship they have voluntarily served in their own Parliaments will stand them in good stead. They will understand the structure of their own government and be able to use their votes with honesty and confidence.

Teen Age Activities in San Francisco

(Continued from page 94)

the calendar to start as early as possible.

Other Activities

Social dances are by no means the principal recreation offered by the San Francisco Recreation Department for the teen age group. There is a schedule of highly diversified activities for this age group which offers folk and ballet dancing, dramatics and puppetry, the girls' choir, the Junior Civic Symphony, playground singing groups, photography, junior museum activities including the building of model planes, etc., handcraft which consists of weaving and Junior Red Cross work, victory gardening on playground plots, and a complete program of athletics with special seasonal tournaments. There are also many special events throughout the year, especially during school vacation when playgrounds are divided into six districts which meet together for picnics, hikes, roller skating parties, and similar activities.

Circus Time in Norfolk

(Continued from page 75)

crepe paper. A bandstand constructed for the occasion was placed between the two enclosed rings. Seated on the stand was a band of thirty music students organized by a local music teacher.

Dancers from a local dancing school took part in the acts and a pony ballet was given by children of the Benmorell Navy Housing Project. Dressed in white ballet costumes, they rode horses made of wood decorated with red pompons and red reins.

The program consisted of assembly, side shows, a parade, and the big show of twelve acts. In the side shows were hula dancers, Siamese twins, a wild man, a thin man, a fat lady, a snake charmer, two dwarfs, a fortuneteller, wild women, a two-headed sailor, and a sword swallower. The twelve acts of the big show included the following: hula dancers, pony ballet, Arabian tumblers, angel chorus, daredevils (tightrope walkers), ballet, elephant dance, acrobatic dance, clown act, toe dancing, monkeys-on-skates, and a clown band.

Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles of
Current Interest of the Recreation Worker

MAGAZINES

- Alabama Social Welfare*, February 1944
Recreation in a Rural County, by Grace M. Ebert
- The American City*, March 1944
Bicycle Paths and How to Design Them, by Roland C. Geist
Denver's Theatre of Rocks, by C. Ranmer
Enlisting Public Support for a Park Board, by Earle K. Eby
- Architectural Record*, March 1944
The Community School, by Arthur B. Moehlman
The School in the Neighborhood Center, by Richard J. Neutra
Two Schools Designed for Community Use
- Beach and Pool*, February 1944
Reconditioning Your Pool, by Wesley Bintz
Teaching the Adult Non-Swimmer, by Robert Royer
- The Journal of Health and Physical Education*, March 1944
Recreation—Second Front for Democracy
Swimming Programs After the War, by Grace B. Davless
- The Nation's Schools*, March 1944
Schoolhouse Planning
- Parents' Magazine*, April 1944
Play Reveals the Boy or Girl, by Amram Scheinfeld
We Can Cut the Cost, by Mark A. McCloskey

PAMPHLETS

- Bomb Ball*, by J. V. Lamberton
Springfield College, Springfield, Massachusetts
- College Unions, a Handbook on College Community Centers*, by Edith Ouzts Humphreys
Association of College Unions, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin
- Fourth Annual Report, Department of Recreation of the Town of West Hartford, Connecticut*. March 1, 1943—February 29, 1944
- Michigan Recreational Camp Survey*
Michigan State Planning Commission, State Building, Lansing 13, Michigan
- Minnehiker Yearbook*. 1943
Published by the Minneapolis Municipal Hiking Club, 325 City Hall, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Municipal Lifeguard Training Course*
Department of Parks, New York
- Musical Recreation*, by Dr. Lili Heimers
New Jersey State Teachers College, Montclair, New Jersey. Price 25 cents
- Play Yards*
Alton Recreation Department, Alton, Illinois
- Victory Gardens for Community, Home, School*
New Jersey State Teachers College, Montclair, New Jersey. Price 25 cents
- Who Is Delinquent?*
American Association of University Women, 1634 I Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C. 5 cents per copy; \$4.00 per hundred

New Publications in the Leisure Time Field

Recreation for All Ages

Part I and Part II. Compiled by Lili Heimers and edited by Margaret G. Cook. New Jersey State Teachers College, Upper Montclair, New Jersey. \$1.00.

THIS MIMEOGRAPHED WORK in two volumes represents a list of teaching aids dealing with all forms of recreation. Included are charts, exhibits, field trips, films, slides and film slides, maps, pictures, posters, recordings and transcriptions, as well as publications.

The material is classified under Administration and Leadership in Recreational Activities; Camping, Hiking, and Scouting; Parties, Dramatics and Festivals; and Hobbies. Recreation workers will be interested in knowing that this comprehensive listing of source material on recreation is available.

Juvenile Delinquency

Special issue of *Survey Midmonthly*, March 1944. Survey Associates, 112 East 19th Street, New York 3, \$\$.30.

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY is the subject of the March 1944 issue of *Survey Midmonthly*, and it presents a challenge to concerted action now and after the war. The problem is stated by Austin H. McCormick in the first article, "The Challenge to All of Us," in which he points out the responsibility of the whole community. "How to Begin" is the title of an article by Bradley Buell, while Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck, two of the country's outstanding criminologists ask "What Do We Know About Delinquency?" Genevieve Garbower takes us on a trip to ten communities and gives us a bird's-eye view of the situation. These and other articles make this issue a significant one for all the community groups who would take steps at once to meet the challenge of rising wartime delinquency.

Thirteen By Corwin

Radio Dramas by Norman Corwin. Henry Holt and Company, New York. \$2.75.

"THESE THIRTEEN RADIO DRAMAS are all perfectly at home on the air, all plays to be heard not seen," to quote Carl Van Doren in his introduction to this collection. They run the gamut of sentiment, fantasy, broad comedy, pathos, applied mythology, and lofty vision.

The Thinking Hand

By Ellsworth Jaeger. The Buffalo Museum of Science, Buffalo, New York. \$1.00.

HERE ARE SOME SIMPLE mimeographed craft suggestions by the Curator of Education of the Buffalo Museum of Science which have been brought together for the convenience of all who are interested in a program of fundamental crafts that untrained hands may undertake with materials easily secured. Most of the projects presented have been tried and proven in the Museum's adult and children's educational work.

The Art of Illusion

By John Mulholland. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. \$2.00.

"MAGIC FOR MEN TO DO" is the subtitle of this book which contains a number of fascinating tricks with playing cards, coins, and pieces of string. There are also instructions for mind reading or thought transference. The explanations given are simple and easy to follow.

Games to Make and Play at Home

By Joseph Leeming. D. Appleton-Century Company, New York. \$2.00.

MOST OF THE GAMES discussed in this book require nothing more than cardboard, beans, cards, pieces of wood or stone. Both indoor and outdoor, old and new games are described, and there are games for one or two or a large number of players. Directions for playing the games as well as making them are given.

Dancing for Fun

By Dorothy N. R. Jackson. University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada. \$.50.

THIS IS A COLLECTION of partner dances based on popular music. The dances fall into two groups—the social mixer type and the ballroom dance type. The collection will be more valuable for experienced social dance directors than for volunteers or beginning leaders.

Recreational Plans for Missionary Volunteers

Review and Herald Publishing Association, Takoma Park, Washington, D. C. \$2.25.

DESIGNED FOR USE by missionary volunteer secretaries and leaders of missionary volunteer societies, this book stresses games rather than dancing of any kind, and suggests bibliographies of temperance material and talks to juniors. There are many suggestions under social gatherings and indoor games, however, which will be of interest to all recreation workers.

Elementary Science Readers

Prepared by the WPA Pennsylvania Writers' Project. Albert Whitman and Company, Chicago.

HERE IS A SERIES of books introducing the reader to various fields of science. In them everyday phenomena are explained with scientific accuracy but in words simple enough to interest readers in the third and fourth grades. Some of the titles in the series are: *The Story of Cement; Aluminum; The Story of Paper; Aircraft; Warships; The Story of Copper; The Story of Glass; Wind, Water, and Air; Radio; Motion Pictures*; and many others. The price of each booklet is 50 cents.

Pictured Geography in Story and Picture.

Story by Lois Donaldson. Pictures by Kurt Wiese. Albert Whitman and Company, Chicago, Illinois.

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The Outdoorsman's Cookbook.

By Arthur H. Carhart. The Macmillan Company, New York. \$1.95.

People who want to cook for themselves and enjoy the results will find plenty of help in this book. Nutritious menus are given for each day of a trip and provision lists are planned for every type of trip from the roughest back-pack trip to the most luxurious. Camping equipment is thoroughly covered and every detail of preparing food in the open is described, including the type of stove to use and the best methods of building fires.

Human Aspects of Multiple Shift Operations.

By Paul and Faith Pigors. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts. \$.75.

This study of the Department of Economics and Social Science of Massachusetts Institute of Technology is of unusual interest and value to industrial management and to those responsible for employee recreation and other service programs. It is of interest that this technical study should give the splendid emphasis it does give to the human factors involved in production of off-shift workers.

The report points out that the root of the industrial worker's difficulty in regard to weekly patterns is that he is living in two communities that are run on different time schedules. The study points out also that the possibility of including recreation after work, and sleep after both, every day is more important for industrial workers than for people whose work is more rewarding. The report covers carefully the adjustment problems faced by workers in odd shifts because of the difficult adjustments of their recreational and leisure-time living.

Appendix A of the report lists suggested recreation activities for industrial workers based on *Recreation for War Workers*, published by the National Recreation Association.

Stunts and Tumbling for Girls.

By Virginia Lee Horne, M.S. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$3.00.

Prepared as a teaching manual to aid the physical education teachers in enlarging their knowledge of stunts and tumbling, this book describes several hundred individual, partner, and group activities arranged in order of difficulty. Special safety measures for each activity are stressed. There are many illustrations.

Physical Fitness.

By J. B. Fitzpatrick, B. A., M. Ed., and E. W. (Joe) Griffiths. The Copp Clark Company, Limited, Toronto, Canada. \$2.50 plus \$.16 postage.

This textbook of physical education for schools and clubs is designed to meet the needs of the teacher in the small school, though there is much in it which will be of value to teachers in larger towns and city schools. The writers have tried to make their directions so clear and definite that even an untrained person would be able to follow them, and free use has been made of diagrams. Activities are included which for the most part require little equipment or for which equipment can be made at small cost. Suggestions and plans for the construction of equipment are included.

A Basic Book Collection for Elementary Grades.

American Library Association, Chicago. \$2.00.

This collection of titles has been prepared for curricular purposes and for recreational reading. It includes books for the child who reads easily, for the child who finds some difficulty in reading, for the child who likes to read, and the child who may develop an interest in reading if he can find the right books. The titles are grouped under a number of classifications such as Fairy Tales—Folklore; Legends, Sagas; Useful Arts; Fine Arts; Travel and Geography; Fiction; and Picture Books and Easy Books. Throughout the list grade levels are given for each title.

Plays for Americans.

By Arch Oboler. Farrar and Rinehart, Inc., New York. \$2.50.

There are thirteen nonroyalty plays in this collection and all of them concern the United States of America and the war, though they are not war plays in the strict sense of the word. They are about people on the home front who are working hard to help win the war.

Bird Houses You Can Build.

Popular Mechanics Press, 200 East Ontario Street, Chicago, \$.25.

Here are several designs for bird houses which should meet the requirements of almost any lover of birds. Among them are colony houses, four-apartment log cabins, and single-apartment homes of rustic design made from short sections of logs. The pamphlet is profusely illustrated with pictures and diagrams, and instructions are given which can be easily followed.

Morale for a Free World.

American Association of School Administrators, 1201 Sixteenth Street, Northwest, Washington 6, D. C. \$2.00.

The Twenty-second Yearbook of the American Association of School Administrators is devoted to morale, not only for America but the whole world, and for a world at war and in peace.

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